

By Senator Lawson

6-772-07

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to postsecondary student fees;
3 amending s. 1009.24, F.S.; authorizing state
4 universities to charge a technology fee;
5 requiring certain procedures for implementing
6 such fee; providing limits for such fee;
7 specifying exceptions to fee limits; providing
8 requirements for the expenditure of funds
9 collected pursuant to the fee; providing that
10 any funds unexpended at the end of a fiscal
11 year remain available for expenditure during
12 the next fiscal year; providing an effective
13 date.

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15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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17 Section 1. Subsections (12), (13), and (14) of section
18 1009.24, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections
19 (13), (14), and (15), respectively, and a new subsection (12)
20 is added to that section, to read:

21 1009.24 State university student fees.--

22 ~~(12)~~ Each university board of trustees may establish a
23 technology fee to be paid by all students. The amount of the
24 initial fee and any subsequent change in the technology fee
25 must be recommended by a technology fee committee, at least
26 one-half of whose members must be students appointed by the
27 student body president. The remainder of the committee must be
28 appointed by the university president. A chairperson,
29 appointed jointly by the university president and the student
30 body president, may vote only in the case of a tie. The
31 committee's recommendation must be approved by the university

1 president and the student body president before being
2 considered by the university board of trustees for final
3 approval.

4 (a) A fee established pursuant to this subsection may
5 not exceed \$10 per credit hour in the first year of
6 implementation. In subsequent years, any increase in the
7 technology fee established pursuant to this subsection may not
8 exceed 8 percent per year unless specifically authorized by
9 law or in the General Appropriations Act. A change in the
10 technology fee may occur only once each fiscal year and must
11 be implemented beginning with the fall term. Notwithstanding
12 the provisions of ss. 1009.53 and 1009.531, the technology fee
13 may not be included in any award pursuant to those sections.

14 (b) The technology fee must be expended for
15 establishing or improving the use of technology that benefits
16 the students directly and may not be expended for technology
17 resources that are not intended for general student use. The
18 student body president must receive a copy of the university's
19 technology plan and may provide input and advice on the plan
20 for consideration by the university board of trustees. The
21 university board of trustees, after consideration of input and
22 advice from the university president and the student body
23 president, shall make a final determination on the expenditure
24 of the funds generated by the technology fee. Unexpended funds
25 remaining at the end of a fiscal year shall be carried over
26 and remain available for technology expenditures pursuant to
27 this subsection during the next fiscal year.

28 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.
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SENATE SUMMARY

Authorizes state universities to charge a technology fee. Requires certain procedures for the implementation of such fee. Provides limits for such fee. Specifies exceptions to fee limits. Provides requirements concerning the expenditure of funds collected pursuant to the fee. Provides that any funds unexpended at the end of a fiscal year remain available for expenditure during the next fiscal year.