

By the Committee on Higher Education Appropriations; and Senator Lynn

605-08323-08

20081768c1

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to university tuition; amending s.  
3           1009.24, F.S.; revising requirements for the Board of  
4           Governors in establishing tuition and out-of-state fees  
5           for graduate and professional programs; revising  
6           requirements for the Board of Governors in establishing a  
7           uniform maximum undergraduate tuition differential for  
8           universities that have research and development  
9           expenditures of a specified amount; allowing the  
10          university board of trustees to maintain the differential  
11          unless otherwise directed by the Board of Governors;  
12          providing an exemption from payment of the tuition  
13          differential for beneficiaries of a prepaid tuition  
14          contract that was in effect on July 1, 2008; providing an  
15          effective date.

16  
17 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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19           Section 1. Paragraph (c) of subsection (4) and subsection  
20           (16) of section 1009.24, Florida Statutes, as amended by section  
21           5 of chapter 2007-329, Laws of Florida, are amended to read:

22           1009.24 State university student fees.--

23           (4)

24           (c) The Board of Governors, or the board's designee, may  
25           establish tuition for graduate and professional programs, and  
26           out-of-state fees for all programs. The sum of tuition and out-  
27           of-state fees assessed to nonresident students must be sufficient  
28           to offset the full instructional cost of serving such students.  
29           However, adjustments to out-of-state fees or tuition for graduate

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30 ~~and professional~~ programs pursuant to this section may not exceed  
31 10 percent in any year and adjustments to out-of-state fees or  
32 tuition for professional programs may not exceed 15 percent in  
33 any year.

34 (16) The Board of Governors may establish a uniform maximum  
35 undergraduate tuition differential that does not exceed 40  
36 percent of tuition for all universities that meet the criteria  
37 for Funding Level 1 under s. 1004.635(3), and may establish a  
38 uniform maximum undergraduate tuition differential that does not  
39 exceed 30 percent of tuition for all universities that have total  
40 research and development expenditures for all fields of at least  
41 \$100 million per year as reported annually to the National  
42 Science Foundation ~~meet the criteria for Funding Level 2 under s.~~  
43 ~~1004.635(3).~~ Once these criteria have been met and the  
44 differential established by the Board of Governors, the board of  
45 trustees of a qualified university may maintain the differential  
46 unless otherwise directed by the Board of Governors. However, the  
47 board shall ensure that the maximum tuition differential it  
48 establishes for universities meeting the Funding Level 1 criteria  
49 is at least 30 percent greater than the maximum tuition  
50 differential the board establishes for universities that meet the  
51 required Funding Level 2 criteria for research and development  
52 expenditures. The tuition differential is subject to the  
53 following conditions:

54 (a) The sum of tuition and the tuition differential may not  
55 be increased by more than 15 percent of the total charged for  
56 these fees in the preceding fiscal year.

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57 (b) The tuition differential may not be calculated as a  
58 part of the scholarship programs established in ss. 1009.53-  
59 1009.537.

60 (c) Beneficiaries having prepaid tuition contracts pursuant  
61 to s. 1009.98(2)(b) which were in effect on July 1, 2008 ~~2007~~,  
62 and which remain in effect, are exempt from the payment of the  
63 tuition differential.

64 (d) The tuition differential may not be charged to any  
65 student who was in attendance at the university before July 1,  
66 2007, and who maintains continuous enrollment.

67 (e) The tuition differential may be waived by the  
68 university for students who meet the eligibility requirements for  
69 the Florida public student assistance grant established in s.  
70 1009.50.

71 (f) A university board of trustees that has been authorized  
72 by the Board of Governors to establish a tuition differential  
73 pursuant to this subsection may establish the tuition  
74 differential at a rate lower than the maximum tuition  
75 differential established by the board, but may not exceed the  
76 maximum tuition differential established by the board.

77 (g) The revenue generated from the tuition differential  
78 must be spent solely for improving the quality of direct  
79 undergraduate instruction and support services.

80 (h) Information relating to the annual receipt and  
81 expenditure of the proceeds from the assessment of the tuition  
82 differential shall be reported by the university in accordance  
83 with guidelines established by the Board of Governors.

84 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2008.