

By the Committee on Higher Education; and Senator Constantine

589-05174A-09

20092318c1

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to postsecondary tuition rates;  
3 creating s. 1009.286, F.S.; requiring an additional  
4 payment for credit hours exceeding the requirements  
5 for completing a baccalaureate degree program;  
6 providing exceptions; requiring notice upon a  
7 student's initial enrollment in a state university or  
8 community college; providing an effective date.

9  
10 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

11  
12 Section 1. Section 1009.286, Florida Statutes, is created  
13 to read:

14 1009.286 Additional student payment required for hours  
15 exceeding graduation requirements.-

16 (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage each  
17 undergraduate student who enrolls in a state university to  
18 complete the student's respective baccalaureate degree program  
19 in the most efficient way possible while providing for access to  
20 additional college coursework. Therefore, the Legislature  
21 intends to enact a policy that provides incentives for efficient  
22 baccalaureate degree completion.

23 (2) State universities shall require a student to pay an  
24 excess hour surcharge equal to 50 percent of the tuition rate  
25 for each credit hour in excess of 120 percent of the number of  
26 credit hours required to complete the baccalaureate degree  
27 program in which the student is enrolled, in accordance with the  
28 provisions of this section.

29 (3) The provisions of this section shall become effective

589-05174A-09

20092318c1

30 for students who enter a community college or a state university  
31 for the first time in the 2009-2010 academic year and  
32 thereafter.

33 (4) Except as otherwise provided by law, and for purposes  
34 of this section, the following credit hours shall be included  
35 when calculating the number of hours taken by a student:

36 (a) All credit hours for courses taken at the state  
37 university from which the student is seeking a baccalaureate  
38 degree, including failed courses, courses that are dropped after  
39 the university's advertised last day of the drop and add period,  
40 and repeated courses, except repeated courses for which the  
41 student has paid the full cost of instruction as provided in s.  
42 1009.285.

43 (b) All credit hours earned at another institution and  
44 accepted for transfer by the state university and applied toward  
45 the student's baccalaureate degree program.

46 (5) For purposes of this section, credit hours earned under  
47 the following circumstances are not calculated as hours required  
48 to earn a baccalaureate degree:

49 (a) College credits earned through an articulated  
50 accelerated mechanism identified in s. 1007.27.

51 (b) Credit hours earned through internship programs.

52 (c) Credit hours required for certification,  
53 recertification, or certificate programs.

54 (d) Credit hours in courses from which a student must  
55 withdraw due to reasons of medical or personal hardship.

56 (e) Credit hours taken by active-duty military personnel.

57 (f) Credit hours required to achieve a dual major taken  
58 while pursuing a baccalaureate degree.

589-05174A-09

20092318c1

59       (g) Remedial and English as a Second Language credit hours.

60       (h) Credit hours earned in military science courses

61       (R.O.T.C.).

62       (6) Each state university and community college shall  
63 implement a process for notifying students regarding the  
64 provisions of this section. The notice must be provided to a  
65 student upon his or her initial enrollment in the institution  
66 and again upon the student's having earned the credit hours  
67 required to complete the baccalaureate degree program in which  
68 the student is enrolled. The notice must include a  
69 recommendation that each student who intends to earn credit  
70 hours at the institution in excess of the credit hours required  
71 for the baccalaureate degree program in which the student is  
72 enrolled meet with his or her academic advisor.

73       (7) For purposes of this section, the term "state  
74 university" includes the institutions identified in s.  
75 1000.21(6) and the term "community college" includes the  
76 institutions identified in s. 1000.21(3).

77       Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.