

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to postsecondary education; amending s.
 3 1009.26, F.S.; authorizing state universities and
 4 community colleges to waive tuition and fees for certain
 5 public school classroom teachers for undergraduate courses
 6 approved by the Department of Education; requiring State
 7 Board of Education rulemaking; amending s. 1004.26, F.S.;
 8 prohibiting a cause of action against a state university
 9 for the actions or decisions of a state university student
 10 government; amending s. 501.0117, F.S.; providing that a
 11 convenience fee imposed on a student or family making
 12 payment by credit card to certain postsecondary
 13 institutions is not considered a surcharge for purposes of
 14 certain restrictions; providing an effective date.

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

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 18 Section 1. Subsection (10) is added to section 1009.26,
 19 Florida Statutes, to read:

20 1009.26 Fee waivers.—

21 (10) A state university or community college may waive
 22 tuition and fees for a classroom teacher, as defined in s.
 23 1012.01(2)(a), who is employed full-time by a school district
 24 and who meets the academic requirements established by the
 25 community college or state university for up to 6 credit hours
 26 per term on a space-available basis in undergraduate courses
 27 approved by the Department of Education. Such courses shall be
 28 limited to undergraduate courses related to special education,

29 mathematics, or science. The waiver may not be used for courses
30 scheduled during the school district's regular school day. The
31 State Board of Education shall adopt a rule that prescribes the
32 process for the approval of courses by the department.

33 Section 2. Subsection (5) is added to section 1004.26,
34 Florida Statutes, to read:

35 1004.26 University student governments.—

36 (5) There shall be no cause of action against a state
37 university for the actions or decisions of the student
38 government of that state university unless the action or
39 decision is made final by the state university and constitutes a
40 violation of state or federal law.

41 Section 3. Subsection (1) of section 501.0117, Florida
42 Statutes, is amended to read:

43 501.0117 Credit cards; transactions in which seller or
44 lessor prohibited from imposing surcharge; penalty.—

45 (1) A seller or lessor in a sales or lease transaction may
46 not impose a surcharge on the buyer or lessee for electing to
47 use a credit card in lieu of payment by cash, check, or similar
48 means, if the seller or lessor accepts payment by credit card. A
49 surcharge is any additional amount imposed at the time of a sale
50 or lease transaction by the seller or lessor that increases the
51 charge to the buyer or lessee for the privilege of using a
52 credit card to make payment. Charges imposed pursuant to
53 approved state or federal tariffs are not considered to be a
54 surcharge, and charges made under such tariffs are exempt from
55 this section. A convenience fee imposed upon a student or family
56 paying tuition, fees, or other student account charges by credit

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57 card to a William L. Boyd, IV, Florida resident access grant
58 eligible institution, as defined in s. 1009.89, is not
59 considered to be a surcharge and is exempt from this section if
60 the amount of the convenience fee does not exceed the total cost
61 charged by the credit card company to the institution. The term
62 "credit card" includes those cards for which unpaid balances are
63 payable on demand. This section does not apply to the offering
64 of a discount for the purpose of inducing payment by cash,
65 check, or other means not involving the use of a credit card, if
66 the discount is offered to all prospective customers.

67 Section 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 2010.