

## **CS/CS/HB 723 — Postsecondary Education**

by Education Policy Council; State Universities & Private Colleges Policy Committee; and Representative Sachs and others (CS/CS/SB 2102 by Higher Education Appropriations Committee; Education Pre-K-12 Committee; and Senator Wise)

This bill provides a tuition and fee waiver for up to six credit hours of public postsecondary undergraduate courses a term taken by full-time public school classroom teachers. The ability to take courses is subject to the following:

- Participants must comply with academic requirements;
- Courses are subject to space-availability;
- Courses are limited to special education, mathematics and science courses that are approved for this purpose by the Department of Education; and
- Courses must be taken outside of the school district's regular school day.

This bill specifies that a state university is not liable for the actions of its student government unless the action is finalized by the state university and violates state or federal law.

To recoup the cost charged by a credit card company to an institution, postsecondary institutions whose students are eligible for the Florida Resident Access Grant are authorized to charge a convenience fee for tuition, fees, and other student charges paid by credit card. A convenience fee is also authorized for community colleges, but is subject to approval by the community college board of trustees and is limited to tuition and fees paid by credit card.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2010.

*Vote: Senate 38-0; House 105-1*