
DIGEST

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HB 323 Reengrossed

2015 Regular Session

Leger

Abstract: Prohibits supplanting of state funding for higher education in years where the tuition and mandatory fees increase and prohibits reductions of state funding for higher education below the appropriation for the prior fiscal year without certain legislative approval.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides that in any fiscal year which the fees and self-generated revenues appropriated for higher education from tuition and mandatory fees are greater than the appropriation of such funds in the prior fiscal year, the additional fees and self-generated revenues shall not displace, replace, or supplant the amount appropriated for higher education from the state general fund and dedicated funds. Further defines mandatory fees as higher education fees that are subject to legislative approval.

Proposed constitutional amendment provides that the total appropriation from the sum of the state general fund and dedicated funds for higher education may not be reduced below the appropriation for the prior fiscal year, except the governor may reduce the appropriation to higher education if either of the following occur:

- (1) If the legislature is in session, the reduction is consented to in writing by 2/3 of the elected members of each house in a manner provided by law.
- (2) If the legislature is not in session, the reduction is approved by 2/3 of the members of the Joint Legislative Committee on the Budget, or its successor.

Provides for submission of the proposed amendment to the voters at the statewide election to be held Oct. 24, 2015.

Effective July 1, 2016.

(Amends Const. Art. VIII, §12)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

The Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Civil Law and Procedure to the engrossed bill:

1. Change the applicability from Fiscal Year 2013-2014 to the prior fiscal year.

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2. Make technical changes to the ballot language.