

2019 Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 121

BY REPRESENTATIVE FALCONER

Prefiled pursuant to Article III, Section 2(A)(4)(b)(i) of the Constitution of Louisiana.

COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES: Requires public postsecondary education management boards to establish policies for forgiveness of unpaid student tuition and fees of certain students who have resigned and seek reenrollment

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:3351.21, relative to public postsecondary education institutions; to provide  
3 for forgiveness of unpaid tuition and fees for students returning to a public  
4 postsecondary education institution; to provide conditions and guidelines for  
5 receiving such forgiveness; and to provide for related matters.

6 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

7 Section 1. R.S. 17:3351.21 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

8 §3351.21. Delinquent tuition and fees; waiver

9 A. Each public postsecondary education management board shall establish  
10 a policy relative to delinquent student tuition and fees for institutions under its  
11 jurisdiction. The policy shall provide for a one-time waiver of delinquent student  
12 tuition and fees owed to an institution by a student who has withdrawn from and  
13 seeks to reenroll in the institution. Each institution shall notify the office of the  
14 attorney general when a student's delinquent tuition and fees are waived, and the  
15 office shall cease pursuing collection of delinquent tuition and fees from that student.

16 B. A waiver shall be granted only to a returning student who meets all of the  
17 following criteria:

- 18 (1) The student is at least twenty-five years of age.

1           (2) The student withdrew from the institution at least three years prior to  
2           seeking reenrollment.

3           (3) The student withdrew from the institution while pursuing an  
4           undergraduate degree and is returning to continue undergraduate coursework.

5           C. Tuition and fees include student, residential, and any other institution-  
6           related fee imposed or authorized by this Title.

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DIGEST

The digest printed below was prepared by House Legislative Services. It constitutes no part of the legislative instrument. The keyword, one-liner, abstract, and digest do not constitute part of the law or proof or indicia of legislative intent. [R.S. 1:13(B) and 24:177(E)]

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HB 121 Original

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**Abstract:** Requires public postsecondary education management boards to establish a policy for forgiving a student's outstanding tuition and fees if the student reenrolls in the same institution.

Present law requires that all debts owed to the state be referred to either the attorney general's office or to the office of debt recovery within the Dept. of Revenue for collection.

Proposed law requires each public postsecondary education management board to develop policies providing for waivers of outstanding tuition and fees of a student who withdraws from and who reenrolls in the same education institution.

Proposed law provides the following conditions of eligibility for a student seeking a waiver:

- (1) He is at least 25 years old.
- (2) He withdrew from the institution at least three years prior to reenrolling.
- (3) He returns to continue undergraduate coursework.

Proposed law requires each board to notify the office of the attorney general when a student's outstanding tuition and fees are waived.

(Adds R.S. 17:3351.21)