

Regular Session, 2010

HOUSE BILL NO. 270

BY REPRESENTATIVE RICHARD

COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES: Provides for additional tuition charges on a per-hour basis

1 AN ACT

2 To enact R.S. 17:3351.16, relative to tuition charges at certain postsecondary education  
3 institutions; to authorize the boards of supervisors of the Louisiana State University  
4 System, the Southern University System, and the University of Louisiana System to  
5 establish and impose an additional tuition charge on a credit hour basis for students  
6 attending the institutions under the management and supervision of the respective  
7 board and to provide relative to such charges; to provide for waivers; to provide for  
8 effectiveness; and to provide for related matters.

9 Be it enacted by the Legislature of Louisiana:

10 Section 1. R.S. 17:3351.16 is hereby enacted to read as follows:

11 §3351.16. Certain management boards; additional tuition charges per credit hour

12 A. In accordance with Article VII, Section 2.1(A) of the Constitution of  
13 Louisiana and in addition to any other authority of the board of supervisors of the  
14 Louisiana State University System, the Southern University System, or the  
15 University of Louisiana System to impose tuition or fees, each such board may  
16 establish an additional tuition charge per credit hour in which a student is enrolled  
17 in excess of twelve credit hours in a semester or in excess of eight credit hours in a  
18 quarter. The additional tuition charge shall not be imposed for more than three credit  
19 hours, and such charge per credit hour shall not exceed one-twelfth of the tuition

1 charge for twelve credit hours per semester or one-eighth of the tuition charge for  
2 eight credit hours per quarter, as the case may be.

3 B. Prior to imposing any additional tuition charge pursuant to the provisions  
4 of this Section, the management board shall establish criteria for waivers of such  
5 additional tuition charges in cases of financial hardship. Information about such  
6 waivers and the criteria and procedures for obtaining a waiver shall be made  
7 available to all prospective students affected by the additional charges in a timely  
8 manner such that the prospective student can be aware of the charges and the  
9 availability of waivers prior to the student making any final decision concerning  
10 attendance at the college or university.

11 Section 2. This Act shall become effective upon signature by the governor or, if not  
12 signed by the governor, upon expiration of the time for bills to become law without signature  
13 by the governor, as provided by Article III, Section 18 of the Constitution of Louisiana. If  
14 vetoed by the governor and subsequently approved by the legislature, this Act shall become  
15 effective on the day following such approval.

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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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Richard

HB No. 270

**Abstract:** Authorizes the boards of supervisors of the LSU System, the Southern University System, and the University of La. System to impose additional per credit hour tuition charges on students enrolled in more than 12 credit hours per semester or eight credit hours per quarter. Provides for limitations and waivers.

Proposed law authorizes the boards of supervisors of the LSU System, the Southern University System, and the University of La. System to establish an additional tuition charge per credit hour in which a student is enrolled in excess of 12 credit hours in a semester or in excess of eight credit hours in a quarter. Limits such charge per credit hour to 1/12 of the tuition charge for 12 credit hours per semester or 1/8 of the tuition charge for eight credit hours per quarter, as the case may be. Also provides that the boards may not establish such additional tuition charges for more than three credit hours.

Proposed law requires that the boards, prior to imposing any such additional tuition charge, establish criteria for waivers of such additional tuition charges in cases of financial hardship. Further requires that information about such waivers and the criteria and procedures for obtaining a waiver shall be made available to all affected prospective students in a timely manner such that the prospective student can be aware of the charges and the availability of waivers prior to making any final decision concerning attendance at the college or university.

Proposed law is in addition to any other authority of any of the boards to impose tuition or fees.

Proposed law is subject to Const. Art. VII, §2.1(A) which provides that any new fee imposed or assessed by a state board or agency must be enacted by law by a 2/3 vote of the elected members of each house of the legislature.

Effective upon signature of governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Adds R.S. 17:3351.16)