

HOUSE BILL 243

By Dunn

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 7, relative to quality assurance funding.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-7-202, is amended by adding the following as a new subsection (l) and redesignating the existing subsection (l) and all subsequent subsections accordingly:

(l)

(1) The commission shall develop and implement a quality assurance funding program that will allow institutions to earn a percentage of funds, in addition to the institution's outcomes-based funding formula model recommendation, that is based on the quality of programs and student success beyond graduation. Quality assurance funding, as established under this part, must incentivize high quality institutional performance and provide a means of assessing the progress of student learning at public community colleges and universities.

(2) The commission may collaborate with institutional staff and faculty and governing boards of the state's public community colleges and universities to establish the quality standards and metrics used to award funding through the quality assurance funding program. The quality assurance funding program must operate in five-year cycles with standards and metrics designed to ensure alignment with the state's higher education master plan developed pursuant to subsection (d) and with other determined higher education priorities.

(3) The quality assurance funding standards adopted by the commission may be structured to recognize sector differences between the public community colleges and universities and may include, but are not limited to, measurements designed to capture:

- (A) Student learning and engagement;
- (B) Student access and success; and
- (C) Academic integrity and institutional quality.

(4) Notwithstanding subdivision (l)(3), in developing the quality assurance funding standards for public universities, the commission shall include at least one (1) component of quality assurance funding, valued at not less than ten percent (10%) of the overall potential funding amount, that is weighted to recognize the performance outcomes of the institution's teacher training program. The performance scores of the teacher training program must be based in full, or in part, on the Tennessee Value-Added Assessment System (TVAAS) scores of each respective program's completers. The commission may utilize additional performance data or measures for completers with no personal TVAAS scores, or additional performance data or measures outlined in the state board of education's report card developed pursuant to § 49-5-108(f).

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.