By Senator Oelrich

14-00266B-11 2011654 A bill to be entitled

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An act relating to student fees; amending ss. 1009.22 and 1009.23, F.S.; authorizing community college boards of trustees to establish a transportation access fee for students enrolled in workforce education programs and community colleges; requiring that revenue from the fee be used only to provide or improve access to transportation services; limiting the amount of the fee; providing a timeframe for a fee increase and implementation of an increase; requiring that a referendum be held by the student government every 5 years to approve the continued application of the fee; prohibiting the inclusion of the fee in calculating the amount a student receives under Florida Bright Futures Scholarship Program awards; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Present subsection (12) of section 1009.22, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (13), and a new subsection (12) is added to that section, to read:

1009.22 Workforce education postsecondary student fees.-

(12) (a) Each community college board of trustees may establish a transportation access fee. Revenue from the fee may be used only to provide or improve access to transportation services for students enrolled in the community college. The fee may not exceed \$6 per credit hour. An increase in the transportation access fee may occur only once each fiscal year

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and must be implemented beginning with the fall term. A referendum must be held by the student government every 5 years to approve the continued application of the fee.

(b) Notwithstanding ss. 1009.534, 1009.535, and 1009.536, the transportation access fee authorized under paragraph (a) may not be included in calculating the amount a student receives for a Florida Academic Scholars award, a Florida Medallion Scholars award, or a Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award.

Section 2. Present subsection (17) of section 1009.23, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as subsection (18), and a new subsection (17) is added to that section to read:

1009.23 Community college student fees.-

- (17) (a) Each community college board of trustees may establish a transportation access fee. Revenue from the fee may be used only to provide or improve access to transportation services for students enrolled in the community college. The fee may not exceed \$6 per credit hour. An increase in the transportation access fee may occur only once each fiscal year and must be implemented beginning with the fall term. A referendum must be held by the student government every 5 years to approve the continued application of the fee.
- (b) Notwithstanding ss. 1009.534, 1009.535, and 1009.536, the transportation access fee authorized under paragraph (a) may not be included in calculating the amount a student receives for a Florida Academic Scholars award, a Florida Medallion Scholars award, or a Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.