

Committee on Education

CS/CS/HB 593 — Postsecondary Fee Waivers

by Education Committee; Higher Education Appropriations Subcommittee; and Rep. Trumbull and others (CS/SB 1164 by Education Committee and Senators Gainer and Perry)

The bill authorizes certain Florida College System (FCS) institutions to waive out-of-state fees for students under certain conditions for the purpose of recruiting students. Specifically, the bill provides that:

- An FCS institution that serves counties directly impacted by a hurricane, and whose enrollment decreases by more than 10 percent as a result of such impact, may waive the out-of-state fees for the purpose of recruiting students for a period of three years, beginning 180 days after the date on which the hurricane directly impacted the counties served by the FCS institution.
- A student who qualifies for the hurricane-related out-of-state fee waiver is eligible to receive the waiver for up to 110 percent of the number of credit hours required for the degree or certificate program in which the student is enrolled. The bill specifies that such student may not disenroll from the FCS institution for more than one semester.
- Each FCS institution must report to the State Board of Education the number and value of all hurricane-related out-of-state fee waivers granted annually.
- Out-of-state students enrolled under the hurricane-related out-of-state fee waiver must not be included in the FCS institutions' enrollment totals by the Education Estimating Conference on Florida College System Enrollment.

If approved by the Governor, these provisions take effect July 1, 2019.

Vote: Senate 38-0; House 114-0