

By Senator Fine

19-00420-25

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1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to postsecondary out-of-state fee  
3           waivers; amending s. 1009.26, F.S.; deleting  
4           provisions relating to the waiver of out-of-state fees  
5           for certain students; providing an effective date.  
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7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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9           Section 1. Subsection (12) of section 1009.26, Florida  
10          Statutes, is amended to read:

11           1009.26 Fee waivers.—

12           ~~(12) (a) A state university, a Florida College System~~  
13          ~~institution, a career center operated by a school district under~~  
14          ~~s. 1001.44, or a charter technical career center shall waive~~  
15          ~~out-of-state fees for students, including, but not limited to,~~  
16          ~~students who are undocumented for federal immigration purposes,~~  
17          ~~who meet the following conditions:~~

18           ~~1. Attended a secondary school in this state for 3~~  
19          ~~consecutive years immediately before graduating from a high~~  
20          ~~school in this state;~~

21           ~~2. Apply for enrollment in an institution of higher~~  
22          ~~education within 24 months after high school graduation; and~~

23           ~~3. Submit an official Florida high school transcript as~~  
24          ~~evidence of attendance and graduation.~~

25           ~~(b) Tuition and fees charged to a student who qualifies for~~  
26          ~~the out-of-state fee waiver under this subsection may not exceed~~  
27          ~~the tuition and fees charged to a resident student. The waiver~~  
28          ~~is applicable for 110 percent of the required credit hours of~~  
29          ~~the degree or certificate program for which the student is~~

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30 ~~enrolled. Each state university, Florida College System~~  
31 ~~institution, career center operated by a school district under~~  
32 ~~s. 1001.44, and charter technical career center shall report to~~  
33 ~~the Board of Governors and the State Board of Education,~~  
34 ~~respectively, the number and value of all fee waivers granted~~  
35 ~~annually under this subsection. By October 1 of each year, the~~  
36 ~~Board of Governors for the state universities and the State~~  
37 ~~Board of Education for Florida College System institutions,~~  
38 ~~career centers operated by a school district under s. 1001.44,~~  
39 ~~and charter technical career centers shall annually report for~~  
40 ~~the previous academic year the percentage of resident and~~  
41 ~~nonresident students enrolled systemwide.~~

42 ~~(c) A state university student granted an out-of-state fee~~  
43 ~~waiver under this subsection must be considered a nonresident~~  
44 ~~student for purposes of calculating the systemwide total~~  
45 ~~enrollment of nonresident students as limited by regulation of~~  
46 ~~the Board of Governors. In addition, a student who is granted an~~  
47 ~~out-of-state fee waiver under this subsection is not eligible~~  
48 ~~for state financial aid under part III of this chapter and must~~  
49 ~~not be reported as a resident for tuition purposes.~~

50 ~~(d) A state university, a Florida College System~~  
51 ~~institution, a career center operated by a school district under~~  
52 ~~s. 1001.44, or a charter technical career center shall, within~~  
53 ~~the nonresident student enrollment systemwide, prioritize the~~  
54 ~~enrollment of a veteran who is granted an out-of-state fee~~  
55 ~~waiver pursuant to the Congressman C.W. "Bill" Young Tuition~~  
56 ~~Waiver Act over a student who is granted an out-of-state fee~~  
57 ~~waiver under this subsection.~~

58 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.