

LEGISLATIVE REPORT

Submitted for: Information.

Summary: This report updates the Board on General Assembly activity and gubernatorial action, including a summary of bills of particular interest to higher education.

Action Requested: None.

**STATE OF ILLINOIS
BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION**

**LEGISLATIVE REPORT
99th General Assembly
Spring 2015 Session
Summary of Legislation
Illinois Board of Higher Education
(Actions as of April 3, 2015)**

HOUSE

House Bill 170, Currie (Landek)

**Assigned to Senate State Gov't and
Veterans Affairs Committee**

Amends the Illinois Procurement Code. Re-enacts a provision concerning the applicability of the Illinois Procurement Code to public institutions of higher education.

House Bill 317, Madigan (Steans)

Public Act 99-1

Makes changes and additions to Fiscal Year 15 appropriations.

House Bill 318, Madigan (Steans)

Public Act 99-2

Authorizes transfers from the designated funds into the General Revenue Fund for Fiscal Year 15 budget.

House Bill 403, Franks (amended)

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends various Acts relating to the governance of state universities. Provides that provisions that permit the children of employees of a state university, who have been employed by any one or more state university for an aggregate period of at least seven years, to receive a 50 percent tuition waiver do not apply to students enrolled at a state university after the 2015-2016 academic year.

House Bill 819, Flowers (amended)

Assigned to Executive Committee

Amends the Board of Higher Education Act and the Public Community College Act. Provides that beginning with the 2016-17 academic year, each community college district shall offer at least one program of study in an academic or technical field that leads to a Bachelor of Arts or Science degree award by a community college.

House Bill 1402, Jones (amended)

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends the School Code, the Public Community College Act, and various Acts, relating to the governance of state universities. Provides that a student may not complete eighth grade, or graduate from high school without studying the events of Black History. Requires every community college to offer, and all students to take, a course studying the events of Black History. Requires each public university to offer a course studying the events of Black History. Allows the course to be online.

House Bill 1484, Ford (amended)

Placed on 3rd Reading

Amends the School Code. Requires school districts' high schools to inform all eleventh and twelfth grade students of dual enrollment and dual credit opportunities at public community colleges for qualified students.

House Bill 2657, Pritchard (amended)

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends the School Code. Authorizes the State Superintendent of Education to use monies in the institute fund and the State Board of Education to use funds available in the Teacher Certificate Fee Revolving Fund to support the recruitment and retention of educators, to support educator preparation programs as they seek national accreditation, and to provide professional development; specifies dedication of monies. Makes various changes concerning Educators Licenses and Endorsements. Removes the requirement that an alternative educator licensure program for teachers or a principal preparation program offered by a not-for-profit entity be approved by the Board of Higher Education.

House Bill 3077, Pritchard

Referred to Rules Committee

Amends the Illinois Procurement Code. Re-enacts a provision concerning the applicability of the Illinois Procurement Code to public institutions of higher education. Provides that the Code does not apply to procurements made by or on behalf of public institutions of higher education for supplies or services under an award made by the Midwestern Higher Education Compact for the use of members of the Compact.

House Bill 3102, Ammons

Placed on 3rd Reading

Amends the State Universities Civil Service Act in provisions concerning appointments and promotions, including changing references from the Director of the University Civil Service Merit Board to the Executive Director of the University Civil Service Merit Board.

House Bill 3125, Pritchard

Referred to Rules Committee

Amends the Procurement Code. Provides that this Code shall not apply to procurement expenditures necessary to secure accreditation for public institutions of higher learning. Requires each public institution of higher learning to provide the chief procurement officer with a report of contracts that are related to the procurement of certain goods and services. Requires the chief procurement officer to submit a report to the Governor and General Assembly each year that shall include an annual summary of the monthly information reported to the chief procurement officer. Repeals these provisions on December 31, 2016.

House Bill 3226, Mautino

Referred to Rules Committee

Amends the State University Certificates of Participation Act. Sets forth the maximum annual debt service amount for a State university's total outstanding certificate of participation obligation. Provides that the Act applies until December 31, 2024.

House Bill 3391, Pritchard

Referred to Rules Committee

Creates the Higher Education Procurement Act. Requires the board of trustees of each public university in this State to cooperatively develop, establish, and implement a State University Procurement System applicable to public universities. Includes provisions concerning the chief procurement officer, JCAR review and approval, System requirements, and an audit. Repeals the Act on July 1, 2020.

House Bill 3404, Chapa La Via

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends the University of Illinois Act concerning scholarships for the children of veterans. Adds as periods of hostilities for which a county may award a scholarship (i) any time during the siege of Beirut; and (ii) any time during the Grenada Conflict.

House Bill 3428, Sente

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends the College and Career Success for All Students Act. Provides that a student who takes a College Board Advanced Placement examination and receives a score of three or higher is entitled to receive postsecondary level course credit at a public institution of higher education. Requires public community colleges and universities to comply with the same standard of awarding course credit to any student receiving a score of three or higher.

House Bill 3476, Chapa La Via

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends the Higher Education Student Assistance Act. Creates a new tuition and fee exemption at state universities for the children of wounded military personnel.

House Bill 3528, Hernandez

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends various Acts relating to the governance of state universities. Provides that notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary, a student who is not a citizen or permanent resident, but meets the requisite requirements, is eligible to apply or receive consideration for any student aid or benefit funded or administered by the State, state agencies, public institutions, or the University, including but not limited to scholarships, grants, awards, stipends, room and board, tuition waivers, or other financial or in-kind assistance.

House Bill 3593, Ives

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends the Public Community College Act, concerning employment contracts, other than collective bargaining agreement, entered into with an employee of a community college district.

House Bill 3575, Rita

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends the Illinois Police Training Act. Provides that local law enforcement agencies, in conjunction with local school districts serving grades nine through twelve and local community colleges, may create Minority Internship Recruitment Programs that focus on preparing minority youth for careers in law enforcement.

House Bill 3577, Rita

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends the Higher Education Student Assistance Act. Requires the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to administer a new grant program for students enrolled in training that would lead to certification to work as a medical assistant in the Roseland Community Medical District.

House Bill 3597, Gordon-Booth (amended)

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends the University of Illinois Act. Provides that the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity shall conduct a study with regard to public elementary and secondary school buildings that have been closed within five years.

House Bill 3692, Cloonen

Placed on 3rd Reading

Amends various Acts relating to the governance of public universities and the Public Community College Act. Provides that beginning with the 2015-2016 academic years, if a person is utilizing benefits under the federal All-Volunteer Force Educational Assistance Program, then the corresponding board of trustees shall deem that person an Illinois resident for tuition purposes. Once enacted, this ensures that veterans will be eligible for all Federal benefits that could total as much as \$30 million, as specified by the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs' Section 702 compliance.

House Bill 3897, Hammond

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends the Higher Education Student Assistance Act. Removes the prohibition on allowing the student member of the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to receive a scholarship or grant pursuant to the Act during his or her term of office with the Commission.

House Bill 3932, Currie (amended)

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends the Private College Campus Police Act. Provides that information and records in the custody or possession of a campus police department shall be open to inspection or copying in the same manner as public records under the Freedom of Information Act.

House Bill 3973, Phillips (amended)

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends various Acts relating to the governance of public universities in Illinois. Prohibits a university from using state funds to pay an individual to deliver the commencement address at any graduation ceremony conducted by the university. Allows a public university to use private funds to pay an individual to deliver the commencement address at any graduation ceremony conducted by the university.

House Bill 4113, Costello (amended)

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends the Southern Illinois University Management Act. Provides that the Board of Trustees shall include one voting student member chosen from each campus of the University. Amends the Illinois Procurement Code. Provides that it does not apply to contracts for the printing of a student-run newspaper at the Carbondale campus of Southern Illinois University.

House Bill 4134, Sandack

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends the Community College Districts Article of the Public Community College Act. Provides that if the board of trustees of a community college district issues a monetary severance package to a district employee using state funds, the exact amount of that monetary severance package shall be deducted from the next disbursement from the State Comptroller to that district.

House Bill 4135, Sandack

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends the Community College Districts Article of the Public Community College Act. Provides that any severance package approved by the board of trustees of a community college district after the effective date of this amendatory Act for a district employee is limited to one year of salary and one year of benefits for that employee.

House Resolution 240, Chapa La Via

Assigned to House Higher Education Committee

States the belief that a public or private post-secondary educational institution should include a student veteran on its governing board if the institution wishes to call itself "veteran friendly."

House Resolution 333, Dunkin

Filed with the Clerk

Urges all public and private colleges and universities in the State to work together to strengthen the Illinois Articulation Initiative to allow greater uniformity in community college transferable credit allowances. Calls upon the Illinois Board of Higher Education, the Illinois Community College Board, and the Illinois State Board of Education to work together to make changes to the Illinois Articulation Initiative to create a more uniform set of transfer credit allowances between community colleges and public and private four-year colleges and universities.

House Joint Resolution 35, Brady

Assigned to Community College Access and Affordability Committee

Affirms that community colleges play a dynamic and essential role in driving the economy and workforce of the State.

House Joint Resolution 52, Burke

Referred to the Rules Committee

Resolves that the Board of Higher Education establish a Higher Education Commission on the Future of the Workforce to ensure that the State has an educated workforce to meet the needs of business and industry.

Senate Bill 11, Lightford (Turner)

Referred to House Rules Committee

Amends the Minimum Wage Law. Increases the minimum wage from \$8.25 to \$9.00 beginning July 1, 2015, and increases it by \$0.50 each July 1 until July 1, 2019, at which point the minimum wage will be \$11.00.

Senate Bill 16, Hutchinson

**Assigned to Criminal Law
(Committee Deadline Established as April 24, 2015)**

Creates the Campus Safety Act. (Shell Bill)

Senate Bill 112, Murphy (amended)

**Referred to Higher Education Committee
(Committee Deadline Established as April 24, 2015)**

Amends the Board of Higher Education Act. Requires the Board of Higher Education to establish a Major Athletic/Academic Feasibility Study Commission.

Senate Bill 688, Lightford

**Placed on 2nd Reading
(Discussions underway for an amendment)**

Amends the Board of Higher Education Act. Provides that the Board of Higher Education shall require all public and private institutions of higher education located in this State to submit an annual report on all procurement goals and actual spending for female-owned, minority-owned, veteran-owned, and small business enterprises in the previous calendar year.

Senate Bill 760, Clayborne (amended)

Placed on 2nd Reading

Creates the Career and Workforce Transition Act. Requires a public community college to accept up to 30 credit hours transferred from an institution approved by the Private Business and Vocational School Act, for certain completed programs.

Senate Bill 806, Kotowski

**Placed on 2nd Reading
(Discussion underway for an amendment)**

Creates the Student Transfer Achievement Reform Act. Provides that a public community college student who earns an associate degree for transfer is deemed eligible for transfer into the baccalaureate program of a state university, meeting certain requirements.

Senate Bill 1334, Clayborne (amended)

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends the Business Enterprise for Minorities, Females, and Persons with Disabilities Act. Provides that each state agency and public institution of higher education that manages professional service contracts shall adopt policies and implementation procedures for increasing the use of businesses owned by minorities, females, and persons with disabilities to not less than 20 percent of state contracts.

Senate Bill 1393, Bennett

Placed on 3rd Reading

Amends the School Code. Requires the State Board of Education to annually confer with the Illinois Community College Board to: (i) identify industries and occupations within this State that face workforce shortages; (ii) notify school districts of these identified industries and occupations; and (iii) approve industry-recognized certification programs designed to mitigate workforce shortages.

Senate Bill 1394, Althoff

Referred to Assignments
(Committee Deadline Established as April 24, 2015)

Amends the Illinois Procurement Code. Re-enacts a provision concerning the applicability of the Illinois Procurement Code to public institutions of higher education.

Senate Bill 1455, Delgado

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends the School Code. Provides that one of the State assessments for high school students shall include tests in the areas of English language arts, reading, mathematics, and science for the purpose of student application or admissions to public institutions of higher education.

Senate Bill 1457, Althoff (Chapa La Via)

Arrived in the House

Amends the Board of Higher Education Act. Creates the Military Prior Learning Assessment Task Force within the Board of Higher Education to study and make recommendations on how to best effectuate the recognition of military learning for academic credit, industry-recognized credentials, and college degrees through the use of the Prior Learning Assessment.

Senate Bill 1609, McCarter

Defeated in Higher Education Committee
on March 24, 2015

Amends the Private Business and Vocational Schools Act of 2012, the Private College Act, and the Academic Degree Act. Defines "religious institution" in these Acts. Provides that any religious institution (instead of any institution devoted entirely to the teaching of religion or theology) shall not be considered to be a private business and vocational school. Provides that no religious institution shall be subject to the educational requirements, standards, or demands contained in the Private College Act or the Academic Degree Act or in those Acts' administrative rules.

Senate Bill 1621, McGuire

**Postponed in Higher Education Committee
(Committee Deadline Established as April 24, 2015)**

Amends the Board of Higher Education Act, the Higher Education Cooperation Act, and the Public Community College Act. Removes application to public community colleges and the Illinois Community College Board (ICCB) with respect to provisions concerning the Board of Higher Education's (IBHE) information system, approval of new units of instruction, research, and public service and review of existing programs of instruction, research, and public service, approval of plans for capital improvements of non-instructional facilities, and examination of the books, records, files, and other information of a public institution of higher education and submission of budget proposals to IBHE for operations and capital needs. Provides for IBHE's master plan and admission standards for public community colleges to be made in cooperation with the ICCB. With respect to the authority of IBHE over community colleges in provisions concerning performance metrics and the underrepresentation of certain groups in higher education, changes that authority to ICCB. Removes the requirement that IBHE approve requests for new community college districts and approve educational service contracts (instead requiring just ICCB approval). Removes a requirement that ICCB file copies of community college financial statements with IBHE. Requires a community college district to report administrator and faculty salaries and benefits to ICCB instead of IBHE.

Senate Bill 1655, Cullerton

**Assigned to Higher Education Subcommittee
on Public Higher Education Executive Compensation
(Committee Deadline Established as April 24, 2015)**

Creates the Higher Education Executive Compensation Oversight Act.

Senate Bill 1710, Rose (amended)

**Postponed in Higher Education Committee
(Committee Deadline Established as April 24, 2015)**

Amends the monetary award program provisions of the Higher Education Student Assistance Act. (Shell Bill)

Senate Bill 1818, McGuire

Placed on 2nd Reading

Amends the University of Illinois Act in section concerning scholarships for the children of veterans. Provides that the total number of scholarships annually granted to recipients from each county may not exceed three. Removes the Civil War and World War I as periods of hostilities for which a county may award a scholarship, and adds any time during the siege of Beirut and the Grenada Conflict.

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