



Jim Kelly

Bill Analysis
Legislative Service Commission

Am. S.B. 53
123rd General Assembly
(As Passed by the Senate)

Sens. Carnes, Gardner, Kearns, Mumper, Drake, Spada

BILL SUMMARY

- Grants in-state tuition rates and subsidies at most institutions of higher education to residents of contiguous states who are employed in Ohio and whose employers contract to pay their tuition and fees.

CONTENT AND OPERATION

For purposes of the state instructional subsidy paid to state-assisted institutions of education, and the tuition and fee surcharges that these institutions impose on nonresidents, the bill grants resident status to any student who resides in a contiguous state and attends a state university, community college, technical college, university branch, or state community college in Ohio if:

(1) The student is employed in Ohio by a business, organization, or government agency located in Ohio; and

(2) The employer contracts with the institution of higher education to pay all of the student's tuition and fees directly to the institution and not to charge or seek any kind of reimbursement from the student for any part of the tuition and fees.

The contract may permit the employer to pay tuition and fees at group rates for its employees who reside in Ohio or in a contiguous state. In the case of courses in which only students covered by the contract are enrolled, the rate may be less than the rate for in-state tuition and fees. In the case of courses in which students not covered by the contract as well as students who are covered by the contract are enrolled, the rate may not be less than the rate for in-state tuition and fees.

The bill does not extend to students attending the Northeastern Ohio Universities College of Medicine and the Medical College of Ohio at Toledo.

COMMENT

1. R.C. 3333.17 of existing law authorizes the Ohio Board to Regents to enter into reciprocity agreements with any state contiguous to Ohio under which each state agrees to charge, to the students of the other state, no higher tuition and fees for attending its state-assisted colleges and universities than the institutions charge residents of their own state. Each such agreement is subject to Controlling Board approval.

2. In order for state-assisted higher education institutions to receive their state subsidies during the fiscal biennium that begins July 1, 1999, for the nonresident students covered by the bill, legislation will need to direct the Board of Regents to count these students as resident students. That legislation could be added as an amendment to H.B. 282, the education budget bill, which, at the time this analysis was written, had passed the House and was pending in the Senate. Section 3 of this bill amends an uncodified section of H.B. 215 of the 122nd General Assembly to provide the subsidy payments for the 1997-1999 biennium. But that biennium ends June 30, 1999, which is sooner than this bill can take effect with the standard 90-day effective date, and the amendment will not affect payments made after June 30, 1999.

HISTORY

ACTION	DATE	JOURNAL ENTRY
Introduced	02-04-99	p. 113
Reported, S. Finance & Financial Institutions	05-04-99	p. 377
Passed Senate (22-10)	05-04-99	p. 379

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