

SENATE BILL NO. 451—COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

MARCH 28, 2011

Referred to Committee on Education

SUMMARY—Revises provisions governing tuition charges, registration fees and other fees assessed against students enrolled in institutions of the Nevada System of Higher Education. (BDR 34-933)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ***omitted material*** is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to the Nevada System of Higher Education; providing that any tuition charge, registration fee or other fee assessed against a student by a university, state college or community college within the System must be retained by that institution and used to support academic programs and other services, activities and uses which advance the educational needs of the students enrolled at the institution and the educational goals of the institution or which otherwise benefit such students; requiring the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to submit an annual report to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature or the Legislative Commission concerning the use of money collected from tuition charges, registration fees and other fees; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

- 1 Existing law authorizes the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada to fix
- 2 a tuition charge for certain students at all campuses of the Nevada System of
- 3 Higher Education. Tuition charges are in addition to registration fees and other
- 4 charges assessed against students. (NRS 396.540) This bill provides that any tuition
- 5 charge, registration fee or other charge assessed against a student must be retained
- 6 by the university, state college or community college at which the student is
- 7 enrolled. This bill further provides that money collected from tuition charges,
- 8 registration fees and other charges must be used to support academic programs and
- 9 other services, activities and uses which advance the educational needs of the



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students enrolled at the institution and the educational goals of the institution or which otherwise benefit such students.

This bill requires the Board of Regents to submit an annual report to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature, or to the Legislative Commission if the Legislature is not in session, which must include for each university, state college and community college information concerning: (1) the allocation of money collected from tuition charges, registration fees and other charges to each academic program; (2) progress in advancing the educational goals of the institution; (3) whether the expenditure of money collected from tuition charges, registration fees and other charges aligns with the economic development goals identified by the Commission on Economic Development or any regional economic development authority or local redevelopment agency for the region of this State in which the institution is located; and (4) the number of students entering each academic program or major and the number of certificates and degrees awarded by each academic program and major.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN
SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Chapter 396 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. Any tuition charge, registration fee or other fee assessed against a student must be retained by the university, state college or community college at which the student is enrolled. Money collected from tuition charges, registration fees and other fees must be used by the university, state college or community college to support academic programs and other services, activities and uses which advance the educational needs of the students enrolled at the institution and the educational goals of the institution or which otherwise benefit such students.

2. The Board of Regents shall, not later than February 1 of each year, submit to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for transmittal to the Legislature in odd-numbered years or the Legislative Commission in even-numbered years, a written report concerning the use of money collected from tuition charges, registration fees and other fees by each university, state college or community college within the System. The report must include, without limitation, for each university, state college or community college within the System information concerning:

(a) The allocation of money collected from tuition charges, registration fees and other fees to each academic program offered by the university, state college or community college;

(b) Progress in advancing the educational goals of the institution;

(c) Whether the expenditure by the institution of the money collected from tuition charges, registration fees and other fees aligns with the economic development goals identified by the



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1 *Commission on Economic Development or any regional economic*
2 *development authority or local redevelopment agency for the*
3 *region of this State in which the institution is located; and*

4 *(d) The number of students entering each academic program*
5 *and major offered by the institution, and the number of*
6 *certificates and degrees awarded by each academic program and*
7 *major.*

8 *3. As used in this section, “tuition charge” has the meaning*
9 *ascribed to it in NRS 396.540.*

10 **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2011.

