

Senate Bill No. 2810

An act relating to state university student athletic fees; amending s. 1009.24, F.S.; authorizing a fee increase to defray the costs of changing competitive divisions; providing that the increase may exceed the limit on fee increases; limiting such an increase to not more than \$2 per credit hour; requiring approval of such increase; providing that such increase shall not be included in calculating the amount of certain student awards; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 1009.24, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1009.24 State university student fees.—

(3) Within proviso in the General Appropriations Act and law, each board of trustees shall set university tuition and fees. The sum of the activity and service, health, and athletic fees a student is required to pay to register for a course shall not exceed 40 percent of the tuition established in law or in the General Appropriations Act. No university shall be required to lower any fee in effect on the effective date of this act in order to comply with this subsection. Within the 40 percent cap, universities may not increase the aggregate sum of activity and service, health, and athletic fees more than 5 percent per year unless specifically authorized in law or in the General Appropriations Act. A university may increase its athletic fee to defray the costs associated with changing National Collegiate Athletic Association divisions. Any such increase in the athletic fee may exceed both the 40 percent cap and the 5 percent cap imposed by this subsection. Any such increase must be approved by the athletic fee committee in the process outlined in subsection (11) and cannot exceed \$2 per credit hour. Notwithstanding the provisions of ss. 1009.534, 1009.535, and 1009.536, that portion of any increase in an athletic fee pursuant to this subsection that causes the sum of the activity and service, health, and athletic fees to exceed the 40 percent cap or the annual increase in such fees to exceed the 5 percent cap shall not be included in calculating the amount a student receives for a Florida Academic Scholars award, a Florida Medallion Scholars award, or a Florida Gold Seal Vocational Scholars award. This subsection does not prohibit a university from increasing or assessing optional fees related to specific activities if payment of such fees is not required as a part of registration for courses.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 23, 2004.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 23, 2004.