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 1                      A bill to be entitled
 2          An act relating to excess credit hours; providing
 3          requirements for additional payment by state university
 4          students for certain credit hours exceeding degree program
 5          requirements; providing criteria for calculating credit
 6          hours; authorizing an exemption; providing an effective
 7          date.
 8
 9   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
10
11          Section 1.  Section 1009.286, Florida Statutes, is created
12   to read:
13          1009.286  Additional student payment required for hours
14   exceeding graduation requirements.--
15          (1)  It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage each
16   undergraduate student who enrolls in a state university to
17   complete the student's respective baccalaureate degree program
18   in the most efficient way possible while, at the same time,
19   providing for access to additional college coursework. The
20   Legislature therefore intends to enact a policy that provides
21   incentives for efficient baccalaureate degree completion and
22   requires a student to pay an excess hour surcharge equal to 50
23   percent of the tuition rate for each credit hour in excess of
24   120 percent of the number of credit hours required to complete
25   the baccalaureate degree program in which the student is
26   enrolled.
27          (2)  The provisions of this section shall become effective
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28 for students who enter a community college or a state university

29 for the first time in the 2009-2010 academic year and

30 thereafter.

31   (3) Except as otherwise provided by law, and for purposes

32 of this section, the following hours shall be included when

33 calculating the number of hours taken by a student:

34   (a) All credit hours for courses taken at the state

35 university from which the student is seeking a baccalaureate

36 degree, including failed courses; courses that are dropped after

37 the university's advertised last day of the drop and add period;

38 courses from which a student withdraws, except as provided for

39 in subsection (4); and repeated courses, except repeat courses

40 for which the student has paid the full cost of instruction as

41 provided in s. 1009.285.

42   (b) All credit hours earned at another institution and

43 accepted for transfer by the state university toward the

44 student's baccalaureate degree program.

45   (4) For purposes of this section, credit hours earned

46 under the following circumstances are not calculated as hours

47 required to earn a baccalaureate degree:

48   (a) College credits earned through an articulated

49 accelerated mechanism identified in s. 1007.27.

50   (b) Credit hours earned through internship programs.

51   (c) Credit hours required for certification,

52 recertification, or certificate programs.

53   (d) Credit hours in courses from which a student must

54 withdraw due to reasons of medical or personal hardship.

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55   (e)   Credit hours taken by active-duty military personnel.

56   (f)   Credit hours required to achieve a dual major

57 undertaken while pursuing a baccalaureate degree.

58   (g)   Remedial and English as a Second Language credit

59 hours.

60   (h)   Credit hours earned in military science courses

61 (R.O.T.C.).

62   (5)   Each state university and community college shall

63 implement a process for notifying students regarding the

64 provisions of this section. The notice must be provided upon the

65 student's initial enrollment in the institution and again upon

66 the student's having earned the credit hours required to

67 complete the baccalaureate degree program in which the student

68 is enrolled. The notice must include a recommendation that each

69 student who intends to earn credit hours at the institution

70 beyond the credit hours required for the baccalaureate degree

71 program in which the student is enrolled meet with his or her

72 academic advisor.

73   (6)   For purposes of this section, the term "state

74 university" includes the institutions indentified in s.

75 1000.21(6) and the term "community college" includes the

76 institutions identified in s. 1000.21(3).

77   Section 2.   This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.

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