

HCS HB 856 -- TUITION CAP SUSPENSION

SPONSOR: Richey

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Higher Education by a vote of 8 to 4.

The following is a summary of the House Committee Substitute for HB 856.

This bill will allow community colleges and public universities to exceed the percentage change limitations for tuition currently established in Section 173.1003, RSMo., beginning July 1, 2022. The bill requires public institutions that utilize differentiated tuition to notify the Department of Higher Education and Workforce Development and to no longer utilize required course fees.

The following is a summary of the public testimony from the committee hearing. The testimony was based on the introduced version of the bill.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the tuition cap removal would benefit public institutions with looming deferred maintenance concerns and would allow market economics to allow universities to set costs for tuition that reflect the value of the product offer.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Richey; Missouri Flagship Council; and the Council on Public Higher Education.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.

Written testimony has been submitted for this bill. The full written testimony can be found under Testimony on the bill page on the House website.