

## STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

### RS24322

Counties which do not have a community college district pay a portion of the community college tuition of its resident students. To ensure that each county is paying on behalf of its resident students, students fill out paperwork, which the counties then review. The community colleges also send invoices to the counties for the county portion of its resident students. The counties review the invoices to ensure the students listed are indeed county residents, have not exceeded their statutory limits, and have not already been paid for that student in previous invoices.

The process of reviewing the residency paperwork from the student and sending out accurate invoices from the community colleges has been cumbersome. Partly due to the lack of definite deadlines in statutes, certificates of residency and invoices have been submitted up to a year after the course was taken. This is problematic for community colleges, because they have had to wait months before receiving payment from some counties. In addition, the counties and the community colleges occasionally dispute the proper procedure, deadlines, and time lines for which the residency paperwork and the invoices should be processed.

This bill would accomplish the following:

- Create definite deadlines for when students must submit certificates of residency forms, when counties must approve those residency forms, when community colleges must invoice the counties, and when the counties must pay those invoices;
- Require counties to pay only for students who have not dropped out of community college courses before the drop deadline;
- Clarify terms and definitions about which students are in-district and out-of-district.

### FISCAL NOTE

This bill may slightly decrease costs for both community colleges and counties because of the expected reduction in personnel time. The reduction should come from increased efficiencies from both sides by having statutory certainty regarding which invoices will and will not be paid.

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