

HOUSE BILL 2437

By Sparks

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
relative to the Tennessee Parents' and Students'
Tuition Relief Act.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 7, is amended by adding the following language as a new, appropriately designated part:

49-7-1301.

This part shall be known and may be cited as the "Tennessee Parents' and Students Tuition Relief Act."

49-7-1302.

There is created a study committee to consider, evaluate, and make recommendations regarding a twenty-five percent (25%) tuition discount for parents and dependents of parents who are simultaneously enrolled in the state university and community college system and the University of Tennessee.

49-7-1303.

(a) The committee shall be composed of:

- (1) The executive director of the Tennessee higher education commission (THEC), or the executive director's designee;
- (2) The commissioner of education, or the commissioner's designee;
- (3) The chancellor of the Tennessee board of regents, or the chancellor's designee;
- (4) The president of the University of Tennessee, or the president's designee;

(5) Three (3) members from the education committee of the senate, to be appointed by the speaker of the senate; and

(6) Three (3) members of the education committee of the house of representatives to be appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(b) The committee shall be convened by the member with the most years of continuous service in the general assembly, and at the first meeting shall elect co-chairs and such other officers as the committee deems necessary.

(c) All appropriate state agencies shall provide assistance to the committee upon the request of the chair.

49-7-1304.

The committee shall study:

(1) The economic, administrative and personnel impact of the tuition discount for the parent and dependent of the parent upon the state university and community college system and the University of Tennessee;

(2) The number of undergraduate and graduate students that will qualify for the tuition discount pursuant to § 49-7-1302;

(3) The extent, if any, to which the tuition discount will unduly burden the existing staffs of THEC, the department of education, the state university and community college system and the University of Tennessee and the extent, if any, to which the plan proposes adequate funding for additional staff requirements; and

(4) The extent, if any, to which the tuition discount will be in compliance with current state laws offering tuition discounts to students.

49-7-1305.

The committee shall prepare a report of its findings and shall provide the report on or before February 1, 2016, to the governor, the state board of education, the Tennessee higher education commission, the education committee of the senate and

the education committee of the house of representatives, at which time the committee shall cease to exist.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014, the public welfare requiring it.