

SENATE BILL 1240

By Gresham

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49,
Chapter 7, relative to higher education.

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

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 7, Part 1, is amended by adding the following as a new section:

(a) As used in this section, "governing board" means the board of trustees of the University of Tennessee, the board of regents of the state university and community college system, or a local governing board of trustees of a state university.

(b) Each governing board shall perform, for each state institution of higher education under the governing board's authority, a cost-benefit analysis that shows the costs and benefits to the institution of enrolling, retaining, and graduating students from each of the programs offered by the institution compared to the costs and benefits to the students of receiving a degree, diploma, or certificate from the institution. Each cost-benefit analysis performed under this subsection (b) must assess the number of students graduating from the institution each year who are able to secure employment in the area of the student's degree, diploma, or certificate and the average length of time that the institution's students were unemployed or underemployed after graduation.

(c) Each cost-benefit analysis required under subsection (b) must include information from each of the five (5) academic years immediately preceding the date on which each governing board's report is due to the general assembly under subsection

(d). A governing board must utilize existing offices and resources to track students receiving a degree, diploma, or certificate for purposes of conducting a cost-benefit analysis.

(d) Each governing board shall report, for each state institution of higher education under the governing board's authority, the results of each cost-benefit analysis performed by the governing board to the education committee of the senate and the education committee of the house of representatives by October 1 of each year.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.