TENNESSEE GENERAL ASSEMBLY
FISCAL REVIEW COMMITTEE

FISCAL MEMORANDUM

HB 1839 - SB 2339

June 2, 2020

SUMMARY OF ORIGINAL BILL: Prohibits a governing board of a public institution of higher education (institution) from contracting or affiliating with a foreign nation, a political subdivision of a foreign nation, or an organization sponsored, operated, or funded by a foreign nation to provide or establish a program of instruction or learning center. Establishes that any contract or agreement executed before the effective date of this legislation shall remain in full force and effect until the expiration of the contract or agreement.

FISCAL IMPACT OF ORIGINAL BILL:

Other fiscal impact – Passage of the proposed legislation could decrease funding for several programs at public institutions of higher education. However, due to multiple unknown factors, a precise fiscal impact cannot be reasonably quantified.

SUMMARY OF AMENDMENT (017926): Deletes all language after the enacting clause. Requires each governing board of a public institution of higher education (institution) to submit a report to the Tennessee Higher Education Commission (THEC) by November 1, 2020, and November 1 of each year thereafter, detailing: (1) each individual who worked for or performed research at its institution at any point during the most recent fiscal year pursuant to an exchange or visitor visa; and (2) whose work or research was funded wholly or in part by a foreign entity. Excludes individuals who were enrolled as a student at an institution during the most recent fiscal year.

Requires THEC to compile the data into an aggregate report and submit to the Governor and each member of the General Assembly, as well as post it to the THEC’s website.

FISCAL IMPACT OF BILL WITH PROPOSED AMENDMENT:

NOT SIGNIFICANT

Assumptions for the bill as amended:

- Any costs to the institutions to submit the report is assumed to be absorbed within existing resources; therefore, any fiscal impact to state government is estimated to be not significant.
- THEC will compile and submit the required report utilizing existing resources; therefore any fiscal impact to state government is estimated to be not significant.
CERTIFICATION:

The information contained herein is true and correct to the best of my knowledge.

Krista Lee Carsner

Krista Lee Carsner, Executive Director

/jpj