

**Senate File 2046 - Introduced**

SENATE FILE 2046

BY CHELGREN

**A BILL FOR**

1 An Act relating to tuition and fee waivers for students  
2 enrolled in postsecondary studies in in-demand career fields  
3 and to prioritizing certain state grants and scholarships  
4 for such students.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 84A.1B, Code 2018, is amended by adding  
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 15. Identify and list, in collaboration  
4 with the Iowa coordinating council for post-high school  
5 education and the local workforce development boards,  
6 statewide and regional in-demand career fields for a five-year  
7 period succeeding the current calendar year for purposes of  
8 tuition and mandatory fees for Iowa's resident students who  
9 major in the in-demand career fields as provided in section  
10 260C.14, subsection 25, and section 262.9, subsection 39,  
11 and prioritizing grants and scholarships administered by the  
12 college student aid commission as provided in section 261.2,  
13 subsection 13. The list of statewide in-demand career fields  
14 compiled by the workforce development board shall be used by  
15 the institutions of higher learning governed by the state board  
16 of regents and by the college student aid commission. Each  
17 community college shall use the list of regional in-demand  
18 career fields compiled by the workforce development board for  
19 the regional area in which the community college is located.

20 Sec. 2. Section 260C.14, Code 2018, is amended by adding the  
21 following new subsection:

22 NEW SUBSECTION. 25. Annually waive tuition and mandatory  
23 fees for a resident student who applies for a waiver under  
24 this subsection and is enrolled in a program of study leading  
25 to a certificate, competency-based credential, postsecondary  
26 diploma, or associate degree necessary for employment in an  
27 in-demand career field identified and listed by the state  
28 workforce development board in accordance with section 84A.1B.  
29 The student shall annually complete and submit application  
30 forms required by the community college, including the free  
31 application for federal student aid, and shall annually apply  
32 for all available state and federal financial aid. The amount  
33 of tuition and mandatory fees waived for a student under  
34 this subsection shall not exceed the amount of the student's  
35 financial need. If a student receives nonrepayable financial

1 aid under any other state or federal program, the full amount  
2 of that aid shall be considered part of the student's financial  
3 resources available before determining the amount of tuition  
4 and mandatory fees to be waived under this subsection.

5 Sec. 3. Section 261.2, Code 2018, is amended by adding the  
6 following new subsection:

7 NEW SUBSECTION. 13. Prioritize Iowa tuition grants awarded  
8 under sections 261.9 through 261.16A, vocational-technical  
9 tuition grants awarded under section 261.17, and scholarship  
10 awards under the all Iowa opportunity scholarship program after  
11 distribution to eligible foster care students, to give highest  
12 priority to eligible students who are enrolled in programs of  
13 study or are majoring in degree programs in in-demand career  
14 fields identified and listed by the state workforce development  
15 board under section 84A.1B, subsection 15.

16 Sec. 4. Section 262.9, Code 2018, is amended by adding the  
17 following new subsection:

18 NEW SUBSECTION. 39. Annually waive tuition and mandatory  
19 fees for a resident student who is enrolled at an institution  
20 of higher learning governed by the board, who applies for a  
21 waiver under this subsection, and is majoring in a degree  
22 program leading to a bachelor's degree necessary for employment  
23 in an in-demand career field identified and listed by the  
24 state workforce development board in accordance with section  
25 84A.1B. The student shall annually complete and submit  
26 application forms required by the institution, including the  
27 free application for federal student aid, and shall annually  
28 apply for all available state and federal financial aid. The  
29 amount of tuition and mandatory fees waived for a student under  
30 this subsection shall not exceed the amount of the student's  
31 financial need. If a student receives nonrepayable financial  
32 aid under any other state or federal program, the full amount  
33 of that aid shall be considered part of the student's financial  
34 resources available before determining the amount of tuition  
35 and mandatory fees to be waived under this subsection.



1 identify and list, in collaboration with the Iowa coordinating  
2 council for post-high school education and the local workforce  
3 development boards, statewide and regional in-demand career  
4 fields for a five-year period succeeding the current year  
5 calendar year. The list of statewide in-demand career fields  
6 shall be used by the regents universities and by the college  
7 student aid commission. Each community college shall use  
8 the list of regional in-demand career fields compiled by the  
9 board for the regional area in which the community college is  
10 located.

11 The bill may include a state mandate as defined in Code  
12 section 25B.3. The bill makes inapplicable Code section 25B.2,  
13 subsection 3, which would relieve a political subdivision from  
14 complying with a state mandate if funding for the cost of  
15 the state mandate is not provided or specified. Therefore,  
16 political subdivisions are required to comply with any state  
17 mandate included in the bill.