

*Provided, That the amount appropriated in this Section for Southern Regional Education Board Contract Programs, whatever amount may be necessary and appropriated is to be used by the Commission to pay to the Southern Regional Education Board the required contract fees for South Carolina students enrolled under the Contract for Services program of the Southern Regional Education Board, in specific degree programs in specified institutions.*

*Provided, Further, That of the funds appropriated herein for the Desegregation Allocation to CHE for Other Institutions, the Commission on Higher Education shall allocate such funds to the affected higher education institutions and state agencies upon Commission approval of the requests from higher education institutions and state agencies in accordance with the approved State Desegregation Plan. Such approved allocation shall be disseminated to the news media so that the general public may be aware of how these funds will be spent.*

*Provided, Further, That the General Assembly hereby expresses its grave concern over the increasing tuition costs and fees which are being required for attendance at this state's public colleges and universities. Such increased costs endanger the ability of middle-class citizens to obtain occupational opportunities which are facilitated by higher education. Therefore, the Commission shall conduct a study of higher education costs in this State which students are required to pay for school attendance. Such study must include, but not be limited to the following: a comparative analysis of tuition costs, fees, and faculty salaries of South Carolina colleges and univer-*

*sities in relation to those of other states in the southeast; consideration of actions which have been taken in other states to avoid increasing costs which are directly born by students and recommendations as to any of these steps which may be adopted in this State; formulation of steps which must be followed by colleges and universities to avoid or delay increasing tuition costs and fees; and recommendations as to any legislative action which may be necessary to implement a system of reducing costs, setting priorities or pursuing alternatives other than increasing tuition, fees and state appropriations. The results of the study and recommendations must be sent to each member of the General Assembly not later than January 15, 1984. Medical education is excluded from the scope of the study required by this proviso.*

*Provided, Further, That all colleges and universities must notify the Ways and Means Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, the State Budget and Control Board, and the Joint Appropriations Review Committee of any fee increase within ten days of the approval of the increase by the respective board of trustees of the college or university. The notification must provide:*

- (1) The current amount of fee per student, the estimated, or if available, the actual amount of revenue to be generated by the current fee;*
- (2) The amount of fee increase approved, the new per-student fee, the effective date of the new fee, an estimate of the number of students to be assessed the new fee, and the total estimated revenue to be generated by the new fee.*