

**REVENUE: No revenue impact**

**FISCAL: No fiscal impact**

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<b>Action:</b>	Do Pass as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
<b>Vote:</b>	8 - 0 - 1
<b>Yeas:</b>	Clem, Dallum, Greenlick, Komp, Lim, Roblan, Whisnant, Buckley
<b>Nays:</b>	0
<b>Exc.:</b>	Krummel
<b>Prepared By:</b>	Derrick Olsen, Administrator
<b>Meeting Dates:</b>	5/21, 5/23

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**WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:** Requires college textbook publishers to provide prospective adopters of particular textbook or set of textbooks with specified information regarding products. Requires publisher that sells textbook bundles to offer higher education institutions option of ordering each component of bundle separately and disclose availability and pricing of separately purchased textbook.

**ISSUES DISCUSSED:**

- Rise of cost of college textbooks
- Bundling of textbooks with CD-ROMs, workbooks, study guides, online resources, etc.
- New editions of textbooks
- Disclosure of prices and bundling
- Other states' legislation on disclosure of textbook prices
- Other efforts to address rising costs of post-secondary education
- Discussions between interested parties to attempt to resolve some disputed issues in the bill
- Ethics of publishers and professors
- Amendment and areas of consensus and areas of disagreement between affected parties

**EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT:** The amendment: deletes all the whereas clauses; refines the definition of "textbook bundle;" adds to the definition of what "textbook bundle" does not include; focuses the list of textbooks, including supplemental items, to be provided to a subject being taught in a course; deletes language regarding length of time publisher plans to keep product on the market and replaces it with language regarding year the prior edition of the textbook was published; deletes "wholesale price" and replaces it with the price the publisher would offer the textbook or components of the textbook bundle to higher education institutions; adds the option of making the list of textbooks, including supplemental items, available by phone, mail, or e-mail; and clarifies that the option of ordering each component of the textbook bundle separately also applies to potential adopters of the textbooks.

**BACKGROUND:** Concern has been noted, particularly among students at institutions of higher education, about the high cost of textbooks, workbooks, CD-ROMs, and other course-related materials. A July 2005 study by the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) found that textbook prices have almost tripled from 1986 to 2004, in large part because of the increasing cost of developing the additional items that come with books, such as CD-ROMs and workbooks. Publishers say that they provide these supplemental materials at the request of instructors to enhance student learning. For example, one publisher reported a \$1 million investment in a CD-ROM containing three-dimensional images to assist students learning human anatomy. The GAO study found that, nationally, students at four-year schools spent, on average, \$900 for books and supplies in 2003-2004, which was more than a quarter of the average cost of tuition and fees.

The Senate Education and General Government Committee gave SB 365-A a Do Pass as Amended recommendation with a 3-2 vote, and it passed the Senate 17-11-2.

5/25/2007 3:02:00 PM

*This summary has not been adopted or officially endorsed by action of the committee.*