

REVENUE: No revenue impact

FISCAL: No fiscal impact

Action: Be Adopted as Amended and Be Printed Engrossed
Vote: 8 - 2 - 0
Yeas: Dembrow, Harker, Huffman, Komp, Roblan, Sprenger, VanOrman, Gelser
Nays: Maurer, Thatcher
Exc.: 0
Prepared By: Kevin T. Christiansen, Administrator
Meeting Dates: 4/17, 4/24

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES: Urges Congress to pass legislation and appropriate funds to provide a free college education for every academically qualified United States' citizen.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Need for a college education in today's global economy
- Applicability to college education only
- Investments in education reflected by the G.I. Bill

EFFECT OF COMMITTEE AMENDMENT: Replaces the word "college" with the words "post-secondary".

BACKGROUND: The United States ranks 10th among industrialized nations in the percentage of persons between the ages of 25 and 34 with an associates degree or higher. The average American student graduates with a debt load of \$17,000 from student loans. Thirty-nine percent of American students graduate with debt loads that require more than eight percent of their monthly income in repayments.

The Memorial declares the importance of individuals having access to a post-secondary education. It urges Congress to pass legislation appropriating funds for a free, post-secondary education for every academically qualified United States' citizen.