Senator Thomsen

FULL COMMITTEE PONY

HB 2409 Relating to student aid

HB 2409 abolishes some unfunded higher education loan, scholarship, and grant programs as well as combines fund accounts to allow for consolidated accounting. The bill also clarifies statutes regarding scholarships for foster youth and scholarships for dependent children of deceased and disabled public safety officers.

The Subcommittee recommends adoption of an amendment which removes specific requirements that current or former foster children must meet in order to be awarded a scholarship by the Higher Education Coordinating Committee. The amendment also removes language regarding award amounts and inserts language permitting the Coordinating Committee to determine the award amounts based on funds that are made available for the award year.

The bill has a minimal fiscal impact assuming the grants contained in the bill do not receive any additional funding.

The Education Subcommittee recommends HB 2409 be amended by the -A2 amendment and be reported out do pass, as amended.