

Allowing community colleges to offer in-district tuition to certain students

HB 544 by Strama (Watson)

DIGEST: HB 544 would have allowed public junior colleges to offer in-district tuition rates to students living outside the district who demonstrate financial need.

**GOVERNOR'S
REASON FOR
VETO:**

“House Bill No. 544 would allow community colleges to offer in-district tuition rates to out-of-district students who have financial need. This is objectionable because taxpayers in the district should not foot the bill for students who live outside the district. A better alternative would be for communities within a service area of a community college to join the district and therefore pay their fair share of the costs of educating their citizens.”

RESPONSE: Neither Rep. Mark Strama, the bill’s author, nor Sen. Kirk Watson, the Senate sponsor, had a comment on the veto.

NOTES: HB 544 passed the House on the Local, Consent, and Resolutions Calendar and was not analyzed in a *Daily Floor Report*.