

## HB 997 -- Child Support for Higher Education

Sponsor: Kirkton

This bill changes the laws regarding child support for higher education. In its main provisions, the bill:

- (1) Allows a court to order either or both parents to provide for the educational expenses of their child whether he or she is of minor or majority age. The court cannot be prevented from requiring the child to be responsible for a portion of his or her educational expenses;
- (2) Specifies that an application for educational expenses be made before or within 120 days of graduation from high school or completion of an equivalent program or upon reaching 18 years of age, whichever is later;
- (3) Specifies that the provisions of the bill only apply to educational expenses for periods of college education or vocational or other training after graduation from high school. The bill specifies the educational expenses that may be included;
- (4) Specifies the requirements that a child must meet to remain eligible for the educational parental support and provides an exception for a child with a developmental disability;
- (5) Requires the court to determine the cost of higher education based upon undergraduate in-state public tuition costs including the reasonable costs for only necessary postsecondary education expenses;
- (6) Specifies the factors that the court must consider when determining the amount of educational support; and
- (7) Requires any amount contributed by the child or received by the child from scholarships or other specified financial aid to be deducted prior to determining the amount of the parents' obligation.