

by Norman Black  
Staff Writer

A bill that would abolish visitation in the dormitory rooms of state-supported universities is scheduled for consideration today by the Senate Committee on Higher Education.

The bill was originally due to be considered last Thursday but was postponed one week due to the lack of attendance by college administrators.

The bill was introduced on May 4 by Sen. Jyles Coggins (D-Wake).

Coggins was prompted to submit the legislation because of the "publicity and commotion that has come out in recent weeks from some of these schools."

"These students and some outsiders are using college dormitories for living together and sleeping together," he said.

Coggins said though some college administrators may not object to it, he believes the general public does.

Presently, the Board of Higher Education permits daily visitation with members of the opposite sex during prescribed hours on all six campuses of the Consolidated University.

Most of the chancellors of the Consolidated University, along with many of the Senators on the Committee on Higher Education, are opposed to the bill, because they feel it is not a matter for the Senate to consider.

"The policy that was worked out with the students, administration, faculty, and

# Visitation issue brings debate

trustees should stand," commented Chancellor John Caldwell of N.C. State University. "There was a tremendous amount of involvement in preparing the present policy. This is something that should be left to the Board of Trustees."

Sen. William W. Staton (D-Lee), a member of the Committee, is also opposed to the bill.

"I would oppose the bill, not because I believe in dorm rights, but because this is not a matter for us. It should be handled by the Board of Trustees."

Sen. Phillip J. Kirk (R-Rowan), felt essentially the same way. "I think it is a ridiculous bill. Matters of this nature should be left to the individual Board of Trustees. However, I might vote to send it to the floor, for it would set up some interesting debate. I don't think the bill will ever pass."

When asked if the administration

could ever enforce this bill if passed, Sen. Kirk was quite skeptical.

"The administration would be bound by law to enforce the bill. But they would have a hard time. This just goes to show how absurd the bill is."

There were some differing opinions, however.

Sen. Joseph J. Harrington (D-Bertie), announced that he would support the bill.

"I think the present policy is a little too liberal. I have confidence in young people, but you can have too much freedom. I try to be a broad-minded person. But take the Allbrook bill (DTH funding bill), that boy at ECU went a little too far. Now it might only happen once every six months, or once every two years, but one bad apple can spoil the barrel. Bills such as this, even if not passed, serve to let the people know sometimes that they can only go so far."

Sen. Ralph H. Scott (D-Alamance), was also in favor of the bill, but expressed some reservations.

"You just can't explain this cohabitation thing to the people back home. I'm in favor of the bill, but I will vote for turning it over to the Board of Trustees. It is not our place to get involved in an issue of this nature. I think they're getting worked up over nothing."

Although many of the Senators felt the bill would not pass if it reached the floor, Student Body President Joe Stallings expressed some reservations of his own.

"We're in trouble with this bill at this particular time. This is a highly emotional issue, and many of the Senators will not wish to stick their necks out. So many Senators are justifying a vote for this bill because it is a vote for morality. Unfortunately, these men don't realize the many positive, constructive aspects of visitation."

The bill reads in full: "No student enrolled in any state-supported educational institution shall visit in the bedroom or other sleeping quarters maintained by or for a student, who is a member of the opposite sex, upon the campus of any state-supported educational institution. Any violation of the terms of this act shall be grounds for suspension or expulsion. Provided, this act shall not apply to married students visiting in the bedrooms of their spouses."

# Out-of-state tuition may double

by Norman Black  
Staff Writer

A bill that would nearly double the tuition for out-of-state students at North Carolina's tax-supported universities has been sent to the floor of the N.C. House for debate.

The bill was reported out last Tuesday by the House Finance Committee with a favorable recommendation.

The legislation was introduced by Rep. William T. Watkins, (D-Granville). Watkins estimated that his bill would affect approximately 10,000 students, or 14 per cent of the state's public

university enrollment.

Out-of-state undergraduate students at the branches of the Consolidated University of North Carolina now pay \$950 a year for tuition. Watkins' bill would increase that to \$1,800.

His goal, Watkins explained, is more nearly to equalize the amount out-of-state students pay and actual costs, estimated at \$2,455 per student per year at UNC in Chapel Hill.

The only serious objection to the bill in committee involved its effective date which, as written, would be upon ratification by the Assembly.

Rep. Glenn Jernigan (D-Cumberland)

spoke against this portion of the bill. Jernigan felt that to not exempt non-resident students already enrolled "would be an undue hardship on 10,000 families who have decided to send their sons and daughters to North Carolina."

The committee voted down an attempt to exempt out-of-state students who attend Tar Heel schools on athletic scholarships.

Watkins said he does not think the higher tuition would reduce the number of non-resident students.

"They accept less than one-fifth of those who apply," he said. "I assume the same number would have money enough to pay the (increased) tuition."

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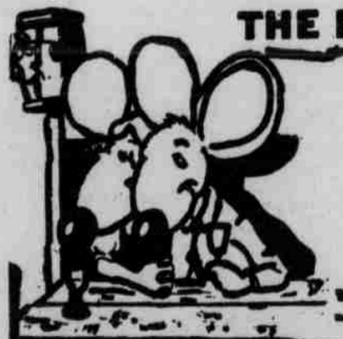


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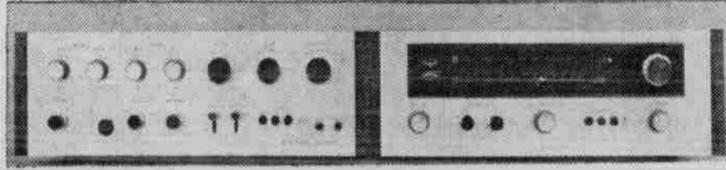


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