## Tuition bill

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 passed the House and has been sent to the Senate.

The bill was introduced in the House by Rep. William T. Watkins (D-Granville), and in the Senate by Senators John J. Burney (D-New Hanover) and Philip J. Baugh (D-Mecklenburg).

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The House passed the bill on its third reading, June 18.
In the Senate, the bill has been sent to the Finance Committee for study Out-of-state undergraduate students at all branches of the Consolidated University of North Carolina now pay $\$ 950$ a year for tuition. This bill would increase that to $\$ 1800$.
The bill would affect graduate out-of-state tuition even more. Next year it would be raised to $\$ 2000$ per year, the following year it would climb to $\$ 2500$ per year

The purpose of the bill, Watkins explained, is to equalize the amount of tuition that out-of-state students pay and the 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 the day the bill is ratified by the Assembly.
The only amendment tacked on the bill in the House, involved the requirements for becoming an in-state student.
The House version would now require a student to maintain a legal residence in N.C. for twelve months. The present requirement is six months.

President William C. Friday and Felix Joyner, vice-president of finance, expressed concern over how such action would deter out-of-state students from applying to UNC.
"I would assume a cost acceleration of this dimension would cause many applicants to reconsider," said Friday.
And Joyner feels that "the number of out-of-state students would definitely decrease. A lot of people wouldn't be able to afford this raise.

Watkins has 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."
William Geer, director of Student Aid, has reported it would take an additional $\$ 500,000$ to assist just those students who are already on aid. This does not include those students who would quite possibly need aid if the bill passes.

As Geer admitted, "We would not be able to take care of all of them."
Geer also feels this is too much of a disproportionate increase. "We just raised out-of-state tuition by $\$ 250$ last summer,

This bill would also affect the future of athletics on this campus.
Geer pointed out that there are currently 110 out-of-state athletes on Carolina squads. "It would take $\$ 93,500$ to pay for their increased tuition."
Walter Rabb, assistant athletic director, feels that the athletic program at Carolina has been faced with a tremendous task.
"We'll simply have to find the funds. We're obligated to the students here on grant-in-aids to pay for their tuition. This could mean we would have to cut down on the size of our squads, road trips, etc. We have not set aside money for this increase."
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