

Mass. lawmakers may make colleges insure students

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BOSTON -- Lawmakers are weighing a bill to require every full and part-time college student in Massachusetts to have at least the basic level of health insurance required under the state's landmark 2006 health care law.

Under the proposal, any public or private institution of higher learning that fails to insure its students would face fines of \$1 per student for every day the student remains uninsured.

All fines would be deposited in the state's Health Safety Net Trust Fund, which helps cover the health costs of the uninsured.

The bill is sponsored by Sen. Richard Moore, an Uxbridge Democrat and Senate chair of the Health Care Financing Committee. The bill is scheduled for a public hearing Thursday at the Statehouse before Moore's committee.