

By: Hochberg, et al.

H.B. No. 255

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to exempting peace officers enrolled in law enforcement  
3 programs from tuition charged by a public institution of higher  
4 education.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 54, Education Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 54.2085 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 54.2085. (a) PEACE OFFICER ENROLLED IN LAW ENFORCEMENT  
9 PROGRAM. A person who is employed by an agency or political  
10 subdivision of this state as a peace officer for purposes of Section  
11 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure, and who with the consent of the  
12 employing agency or political subdivision is enrolled in a degree  
13 or certificate program in law enforcement, including a criminal  
14 justice or police science program, is exempt from the payment of  
15 tuition and fees for a course in which the person enrolls to satisfy  
16 a requirement for the degree or certificate program.

17 (b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board by rule  
18 shall prescribe procedures and forms to be used in determining the  
19 eligibility of a person for an exemption under this section.

20 SECTION 2. Section 1 of this Act applies beginning with  
21 tuition and fees for the 2004 fall semester.

22 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
23 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
24 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this

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1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

2 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.