

1-1 By: Hupp, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Fraser) H.B. No. 261
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 25, 2003;
1-3 April 28, 2003, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Administration; May 6, 2003, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 6, 2003, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the eligibility of armed forces personnel and their
1-9 family members to pay tuition and fees at the rate provided to Texas
1-10 residents.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Section 54.058, Education Code, is amended by
1-13 adding Subsection (j) to read as follows:

1-14 (j) A member of the armed forces of the United States or the
1-15 child or spouse of a member of the armed forces of the United States
1-16 who is entitled to pay tuition and fees at the rate provided for
1-17 Texas residents under another provision of this section while
1-18 enrolled in a degree or certificate program is entitled to pay
1-19 tuition and fees at the rate provided for Texas residents in any
1-20 subsequent term or semester while the person is continuously
1-21 enrolled in the same degree or certificate program. For purposes of
1-22 this subsection, a person is not required to enroll in a summer term
1-23 to remain continuously enrolled in a degree or certificate program.
1-24 The person's eligibility to pay tuition and fees at the rate
1-25 provided for Texas residents under this subsection does not
1-26 terminate because the person is no longer a member of the armed
1-27 forces of the United States or the child or spouse of a member of the
1-28 armed forces of the United States.

1-29 SECTION 2. Section 54.058(j), as added by this Act, applies
1-30 beginning with the 2003 fall semester to a person who was a member
1-31 of the armed forces of the United States or the child or spouse of a
1-32 member of the armed forces of the United States entitled to pay
1-33 tuition and fees at the rate provided for Texas residents under
1-34 Section 54.058, Education Code, while enrolled in a degree or
1-35 certificate program at a public institution of higher education in
1-36 this state in the 2003 spring semester or in any term of the 2003
1-37 summer session.

1-38 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-39 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-40 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-41 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-42 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

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