

1-1 By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 1787
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 14, 2003; March 24, 2003, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Health and Human Services;
1-4 May 21, 2003, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 1; May 21, 2003,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1787 By: Zaffirini

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to exempting certain persons in transitional living
1-11 programs from the payment of tuition and fees at public
1-12 institutions of higher education.

1-13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-14 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 54, Education Code, is
1-15 amended by adding Section 54.2115 to read as follows:

1-16 Sec. 54.2115. TUITION EXEMPTION FOR CERTAIN PERSONS IN
1-17 TRANSITIONAL LIVING PROGRAM. (a) In this section, "transitional
1-18 living program" means a program that meets the grant eligibility
1-19 standards for transitional living youth projects for homeless youth
1-20 under Sections 321 and 322, Runaway and Homeless Youth Act (42
1-21 U.S.C. Sections 5714-1 and 5714-2), as amended.

1-22 (b) A person may be exempted from the payment of tuition and
1-23 required fees other than property deposit fees if the person:

1-24 (1) was a resident in a transitional living program
1-25 for a continuous period of at least six months occurring after the
1-26 person's 16th birthday but before the person's 22nd birthday;

1-27 (2) maintains a current residence that is separate
1-28 from that of a parent, conservator, or other guardian of the person;

1-29 (3) is classified as a Texas resident under Subchapter

1-30 B;

1-31 (4) initially enrolls at an institution of higher
1-32 education as a full-time or part-time undergraduate student not
1-33 later than the person's 22nd birthday; and

1-34 (5) demonstrates financial need as determined
1-35 according to standards adopted by any institution of higher
1-36 education in which the person enrolls.

1-37 (c) Each transitional living program in this state shall
1-38 provide current program information to the Department of Protective
1-39 and Regulatory Services and shall update the information as
1-40 necessary. The department shall maintain a record of each
1-41 transitional living program in this state and shall provide a list
1-42 of the programs to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
1-43 not later than June 1 of each year.

1-44 SECTION 2. (a) This Act applies beginning with tuition and
1-45 fees for the 2004 spring semester.

1-46 (b) A public institution of higher education shall adopt the
1-47 standards for financial need as described by Section 54.2115,
1-48 Education Code, as added by this Act, not later than the 30th day
1-49 after the effective date of this Act.

1-50 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-51 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-52 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-53 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-54 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

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