

By: Keel

H.B. No. 1039

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to an exemption from tuition and fees at institutions of
3 higher education for peace officers and police cadets enrolled in
4 certain law enforcement programs.

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 54.2081 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 54.2081. PEACE OFFICERS AND POLICE CADETS ENROLLED IN
9 LAW ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS. (a) The governing board of an
10 institution of higher education may exempt a student from the
11 payment of tuition and required fees authorized by this chapter if
12 the student:

13 (1) is enrolled in a law enforcement degree or
14 certificate program at an institution of higher education;

15 (2) in the semester or term to which the exemption
16 applies, is enrolled in one or more courses required to complete the
17 degree or certificate program; and

18 (3) is employed:

19 (A) full-time as a peace officer for purposes of
20 Article 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure, or other law; or

21 (B) as a police cadet by this state or a political
22 subdivision of this state.

23 (b) A student may receive an exemption authorized by this
24 section only for courses that are required to complete the law

1 enforcement degree or certificate program in which the student is
2 enrolled.

3 (c) A person must apply for an exemption authorized by this
4 section in the manner provided by the governing board of the
5 institution. The governing board shall require an applicant for an
6 exemption to submit satisfactory evidence that the applicant is
7 eligible for the exemption.

8 SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with tuition and fees
9 charged by an institution of higher education for the 2005 fall
10 semester.

11 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
12 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
13 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
14 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
15 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.