

By: McReynolds

H.B. No. 1407

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to an exemption from tuition and fees at public  
3 institutions of higher education for children of certain employees  
4 of the Texas Forest Service with fire-fighting, rescue, or other  
5 special duties who are killed or disabled in the line of duty.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 54.204(a)(1), Education Code, is amended  
8 to read as follows:

9 (1) "Eligible employee" means:

10 (A) a full-paid or volunteer firefighter;

11 (B) ~~or~~ a full-paid municipal, county, or  
12 state peace officer;

13 (C) ~~or~~ a custodial employee of the Texas  
14 Department of Corrections;

15 (D) ~~or~~ a game warden; or

16 (E) an employee of the Texas Forest Service who:

17 (i) is assigned fire-fighting,  
18 fire-prevention, rescue, or incident management duties; and

19 (ii) meets or is scheduled to meet the  
20 applicable qualifications and training guidelines established by  
21 the National Wildfire Coordinating Group for the performance of the  
22 employee's assigned duties.

23 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies  
24 beginning with dues, fees, and charges imposed by a public

1 institution of higher education for the 2005 fall semester. Dues,  
2 fees, and charges imposed in a semester or session before the 2005  
3 fall semester are governed by the applicable law in effect before  
4 the effective date of this Act, and that law is continued in effect  
5 for that purpose.

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