

AN ACT

relating to tuition exemptions at public institutions of higher education for certain professional nursing program preceptors and their children.

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

SECTION 1. Section 54.222, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (b) and (c) and adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

(b) The governing board of an institution of higher education shall exempt from the payment of \$500 of the total amount of tuition a resident of this state enrolled as a student at the institution who:

(1) is a registered nurse; and

(2) serves [~~is serving~~] under a written preceptor agreement with an undergraduate professional nursing program as a clinical preceptor for students enrolled in the program.

(b-1) A person is entitled to an exemption under Subsection (b) for one semester or other academic term for each [the] semester or other academic term during [for] which the person serves as a clinical preceptor as described by Subsection (b). The person may claim the exemption in:

(1) the semester or other academic term in which the person serves as a clinical preceptor; or

(2) a different semester or other academic term that

1 begins before the first anniversary of the last day of a semester or  
2 other academic term described by Subdivision (1), if the person  
3 does not claim the exemption in the semester or other term during  
4 which the person serves as a clinical preceptor [~~exemption is~~  
5 ~~sought~~].

6 (c) The governing board of an institution of higher  
7 education shall exempt from the payment of \$500 of the total amount  
8 of tuition a resident of this state enrolled as an undergraduate  
9 student at the institution who is a child of a person who meets the  
10 requirements of Subsection (b) [~~Subsections (b)(1) and (2)~~]. The  
11 child is entitled to an exemption for one semester or other academic  
12 term for each semester or other academic term during which the  
13 parent serves as a clinical preceptor. The child may claim the  
14 exemption in any semester or other academic term during which the  
15 parent could have claimed an exemption under Subsection (b). The  
16 child's eligibility for an exemption is not affected by whether the  
17 parent also received an exemption under Subsection (b) for the same  
18 qualifying service as a clinical preceptor.

19 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies  
20 beginning with tuition charged for the 2007 fall semester.  
21 Beginning with that semester, the governing board of a public  
22 institution of higher education shall grant a tuition exemption in  
23 accordance with Section 54.222, Education Code, as amended by this  
24 Act, regardless of whether the qualifying service as a clinical  
25 preceptor occurred before the effective date of this Act. Tuition  
26 charged for a semester or term before the 2007 fall semester is  
27 covered by the law in effect immediately before the effective date

1 of this Act, and the former law is continued in effect for that  
2 purpose.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
7 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 201 passed the Senate on  
April 26, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 201 passed the House on  
May 17, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 0, two  
present not voting.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor