

By: Watson

S.B. No. 457

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1

AN ACT

2 relating to the eligibility for education benefits of surviving  
3 minor children of certain public employees killed in the line of  
4 duty.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 615.0225(a), Government Code, is amended  
7 to read as follows:

8 (a) A person is eligible to receive education benefits under  
9 this section if the person is:

10 (1) a surviving spouse; or

11 (2) a surviving minor child as defined by Section  
12 615.001~~[, if the child was claimed as a dependent on the income tax~~  
13 ~~return filed with the Internal Revenue Service by the listed~~  
14 ~~individual in the year preceding the year in which the listed~~  
15 ~~individual died].~~

16 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act to Section  
17 615.0225(a), Government Code, regarding the eligibility of a  
18 surviving child for educational benefits applies in relation to a  
19 death that occurs on or after September 1, 2001. However, that  
20 change applies only with respect to education benefits awarded by  
21 an institution of higher education beginning with the 2007 fall  
22 semester.

23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

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1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.