

1-1 By: Zaffirini, Davis, Uresti S.B. No. 43
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed November 10, 2008; February 10, 2009,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Higher Education;
1-4 March 23, 2009, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; March 23, 2009,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 43 By: Zaffirini

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

1-10 relating to tuition and fee exemptions at public institutions of
1-11 higher education for students who have been in foster care or
1-12 certain other residential care.

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

1-14 SECTION 1. Subsection (a), Section 54.211, Education Code,
1-15 is amended to read as follows:

1-16 (a) A student is exempt from the payment of tuition and fees
1-17 authorized in this chapter, including tuition and fees charged by
1-18 an institution of higher education for a dual credit course or other
1-19 course for which a high school student may earn joint high school
1-20 and college credit, if the student:

1-21 (1) was in foster care or other residential care under
1-22 the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective
1-23 Services [~~on or after~~]:

1-24 (A) on the day preceding the student's 18th
1-25 birthday;

1-26 (B) on or after the day of the student's 14th
1-27 birthday, if the student was also eligible for adoption on or after
1-28 that day; or

1-29 (C) on the day the student graduated from high
1-30 school or received the equivalent of a high school diploma; and

1-31 (2) enrolls in an institution of higher education as
1-32 an undergraduate student or in a dual credit course or other course
1-33 for which a high school student may earn joint high school and
1-34 college credit not later than~~+~~

1-35 [~~(A) the third anniversary of the date the~~
1-36 ~~student was discharged from the foster or other residential care,~~
1-37 ~~the date the student graduated from high school, or the date the~~
1-38 ~~student received the equivalent of a high school diploma, whichever~~
1-39 ~~date is earliest, or~~

1-40 [~~(B)~~] the student's 25th [~~21st~~] birthday.

1-41 SECTION 2. Section 54.211, Education Code, as amended by
1-42 this Act, applies beginning with tuition and other fees charged for
1-43 the 2010 spring semester. Tuition and other fees charged for an
1-44 academic period before that semester are covered by the law in
1-45 effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and the
1-46 former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

1-47 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-48 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-49 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-50 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-51 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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