

1-1 By: Lewis (Senate Sponsor - Zaffirini) H.B. No. 2999
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 4, 2011;
1-3 May 5, 2011, read first time and referred to Committee on Higher
1-4 Education; May 23, 2011, reported adversely, with favorable
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0;
1-6 May 23, 2011, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 2999 By: Zaffirini

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

1-10 relating to a fixed tuition rate program for certain students who
1-11 transfer to a state university after completing an associate degree
1-12 program.

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

1-14 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 54, Education Code, is
1-15 amended by adding Section 54.016 to read as follows:

1-16 Sec. 54.016. FIXED TUITION RATE PROGRAM FOR CERTAIN
1-17 TRANSFER STUDENTS AT GENERAL ACADEMIC TEACHING INSTITUTIONS. (a)
1-18 In this section:

1-19 (1) "Coordinating board" means the Texas Higher
1-20 Education Coordinating Board.

1-21 (2) "General academic teaching institution" has the
1-22 meaning assigned by Section 61.003.

1-23 (3) "Lower-division institution of higher education"
1-24 means a public junior college, public state college, or public
1-25 technical institute.

1-26 (b) A general academic teaching institution may develop a
1-27 fixed tuition rate program for qualified students who agree to
1-28 transfer to the institution within 12 months after successfully
1-29 earning an associate degree at a lower-division institution of
1-30 higher education. Under a program developed under this section, a
1-31 general academic teaching institution must:

1-32 (1) guarantee to a participating student enrolled in
1-33 an associate degree program at a lower-division institution of
1-34 higher education, on successful completion of the associate degree
1-35 program, transfer admission to the general academic teaching
1-36 institution within the period prescribed above; and

1-37 (2) notwithstanding any other provision of this
1-38 chapter, charge tuition to a participating student for any semester
1-39 or other academic term during a period of at least 24 months
1-40 following the student's initial enrollment in the institution at
1-41 the same rate the general academic teaching institution would have
1-42 charged to the student during the later of:

1-43 (A) the fall semester of the student's freshman
1-44 year at another institution of higher education had the student
1-45 entered the general academic teaching institution as a freshman
1-46 student; or

1-47 (B) the fall semester of the second academic year
1-48 preceding the academic year of the student's initial enrollment in
1-49 the general academic teaching institution.

1-50 (c) A general academic teaching institution that develops a
1-51 fixed tuition rate program under this section shall prescribe
1-52 eligibility requirements for participation in the program and
1-53 notify applicants for transfer admission from lower-division
1-54 institutions of higher education regarding the program.

1-55 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-56 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-57 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-58 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-59 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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