

By: Muñoz, Jr.

H.B. No. 1836

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to limitations on the amount of tuition charged by certain public institutions of higher education.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 54, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 54.0514 to read as follows:

Sec. 54.0514. LIMITATION ON TOTAL AMOUNT OF TUITION. (a)

In this section:

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

(2) "Tuition" includes:

(A) tuition for which the rates are prescribed by this chapter; and

(B) tuition charged by a general academic teaching institution under Section 54.0513 or another law authorizing an institution to establish tuition rates.

(a-1) Notwithstanding Section 54.0513 or another law authorizing an institution to establish tuition rates, the total amount of tuition charged by a general academic teaching institution to a student for the 2018-2019, 2019-2020, 2020-2021, or 2021-2022 academic year may not exceed the total amount of tuition that the institution would have charged under this chapter to a similarly situated student for the 2016-2017 academic year.

This subsection expires August 31, 2022.

1 (b) Notwithstanding Section 54.0513 or another law
2 authorizing an institution to establish tuition rates, the total
3 amount of tuition charged by a general academic teaching
4 institution to a student for the 2022-2023 academic year or a
5 subsequent academic year may not exceed the total amount of tuition
6 that the institution would have charged under this chapter to a
7 similarly situated student for the 2016-2017 academic year by more
8 than 65 percent.

9 (c) For purposes of this section, students are similarly
10 situated if they share the same residency status, degree program,
11 course load, course level, tuition exemption status, and other
12 circumstances affecting the tuition charged to the student.

13 (d) This section does not ensure that the total amount of
14 tuition charged to an individual student does not increase based on
15 a change in the student's residency status, degree program, course
16 load, course level, tuition exemption status, or other circumstance
17 affecting the tuition charged to the student.

18 (e) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board may adopt
19 rules as necessary to administer this section.

20 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
21 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
22 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
23 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
24 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.