By:  Wilson (Senate Sponsor - Flores) H.B. No. 3124

(In the Senate - Received from the House May 3, 2019; May 7, 2019, read first time and referred to Committee on Higher Education; May 19, 2019, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 19, 2019, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

               Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Creighton       X

West            X

Bettencourt     X

Buckingham      X

Flores          X

Menéndez        X

Powell          X

Taylor          X

Watson          X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to tuition and fees charged by The Texas A&M University System for certain national laboratory or national laboratory operator employees and dependents.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter D, Chapter 54, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 54.369 to read as follows:

Sec. 54.369.  THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM; NATIONAL LABORATORY OR NATIONAL LABORATORY OPERATOR EMPLOYEE OR DEPENDENT. (a)  In this section:

(1)  "Board" means the board of regents of The Texas A&M University System.

(2)  "National laboratory" means a national laboratory owned by the United States Department of Energy.

(3)  "Operator" means a person awarded a contract to operate and manage a national laboratory.

(b)  A person, or the person's dependent, is entitled to pay tuition and fees at the rates provided for Texas residents when enrolled in an institution of The Texas A&M University System if the person is employed by:

(1)  a national laboratory with whom the board has entered into a management and operation agreement or academic affiliation agreement; or

(2)  the operator of a national laboratory with whom the board has entered into a membership agreement or equivalent governance document.

SECTION 2.  The change in law made by this Act applies beginning with tuition and fees charged by The Texas A&M University System for the 2019 fall semester.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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