

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 582

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Hearing Date: March 18, 2021 8:00 AM

Roman Flores, Medic
Austin Travis County EMS
Kyle, TX

Medical discoveries are made every single day. Thus leading to further training, further education requirements for future paramedics, require further education in an constant changing field to care for the citizens of each of our towns and cities. It is important to further educate ourselves, but with strenuous work schedules and low wages for some departments it makes it difficult to do so. This bill would help not only the paramedics of Texas, but it would give the citizens enhanced medical treatment brought to their door steps. Always remember, the learning process never stops and there's always room for improvement.

Michael Flanagan, Captain
A/TCEMS
Liberty Hill, TX

Paramedics are the backbone of our public safety and the only true healthcare safety net and as such our state owes it to the to invest in their education to ensure we have a constant supply of educated, compensated and competent providers.

Ross Copland, Rescue Clinical Specialist - Paramedic
Austin EMS Association
Austin, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees."

Kevin Kozowyk, Paramedic
ATCEMSEA
Buda, TX

In a world where education is so promoted and accessible, it is alarming that hard working paramedics can not get assistance with tuition. Fire departments and police departments already have this ability, but sadly 3rd service ems departments are not afforded this benefit. This is truly an inequality amongst career paths. Please treat paramedics with compassion and empathy as they do for you or your loved ones when you call upon them for their help. We always answer the call no matter what circumstances when people need us. Now it's time to answer the call when paramedics need you. Thanks

Jordan Gregson
Paramedics
Austin, TX

I support this bill because COVID-19 and the ice storms have shown us that we need Paramedics to have access to education to
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become the next EMS leaders

Holly Craghead

Austin Travis County EMS

Canyon Lake, TX

EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics that will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community."

leslie stanford

ATCEMS - Self, EMS Captain

austin, TX

EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics that will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community.

Madison Rawn

Self

Austin, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption to provide them with needed education. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.

Cassandra Lydon

Self, paramedic

Austin, TX

EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics that will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community. This is something police and fire fighters already have access to and paramedics deserve the same benefit as part of the vital public safety team.

Andrew Azelton

self

Round Rock, TX

As a 20 year medic I have made EMS my life's work. Our field needs more support in formal education to help us advance with other clinically minded careers like nursing did. Formal education will ensure Texas has clinically sound educated medics treating Texans.

Stephen Schiller, Commander

Austin Travis Co EMS

Austin, TX

EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics that will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community

Tyler Green

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Self

Killeen, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.

Douglas Arnold, Mr.

Austin EMS Association

Cibolo, TX

As public safety first responders, municipal paramedics, just like our police and firefighters, need to have the education and training necessary to be prepared to serve the people of Texas as effectively and efficiently as possible.

Furthermore, with the upcoming changes in federal healthcare there will be unforeseen challenges that require higher skilled EMS public safety professionals and leaders who will be able to navigate these new challenges. EMS is changing rapidly to meet the needs of the communities in which they serve and have been change leaders in the delivery of out of hospital healthcare by meeting the needs of the community where they are at. EMS is no longer just medical transportation, it is prehospital healthcare.

EMS professionals do this all while being the lowest paid of public safety professionals. Professionals that are already required to have more education than police or fire when entering the profession. As the need for more education is mounting these low paid public servants are asked to take on more personal hardship than other public safety professionals in order to obtain the required education to be able to best serve the community.

Due to this I as that you please support HB582.

Kimberly Griffith

Self-Paramedic

Bastrop, TX

Over the past year, we've seen the impact that having well-educated paramedics can have in multiple different disasters. Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.

Eduardo Eguia, Paramedic

Austin Travis County EMS, paramedic

Buda, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.

Diamond Horton, Clinical Specialist

Self/ATCEMS paramedic

Manchaca, TX

EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics that will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community.

Robert Buckingham

self - media

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Austin, TX

EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics that will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community.

Boning Gao
self - teacher

Austin, TX

This bill closes a loophole where public safety have access to higher education. Right now municipal police and firefighters have access to higher education. We need to finally give this to paramedics.

Jon Kalinowski
Self Paramedic

Austin, TX

I support this bill because the last year has been spent turning to EMS and asking for solutions to problems like the pandemic and ice storms. Help us educate ourselves to make us better leaders and to continue improving how we serve our communities.

Jason Cantú
Self

Austin, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access across all institutions.

Jacob Saunders
Self, paramedic

Buda, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.

Ruben Cantu
self - professor

Austin, TX

I support this bill because COVID-19 and the ice storms have shown us that we need Paramedics to have access to education to become the next EMS leaders. Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics that will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community.

Abigail Cantu, Teacher
Self

Dallas, TX

I support this bill because COVID-19 and the ice storms have shown us that we need Paramedics to have access to education to

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become the next EMS leaders. Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics that will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community.

Brady Nemeth

Self - Program Manager

Buda, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.

Audrey Lucia

Self, Paramedic

Canyon Lake, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.

Dale Gardner

Self

Austin, TX

Wouldn't you want a better patient outcome by having your local paramedics be able to access higher education? They deserve more and this would also benefit the general public by letting them overcome the financial barriers of continuing their education.

Jason Eisenberg

Paramedics

Austin, TX

I support first responders

Angela Vorhies

Self

Manor, TX

I support this bill because COVID-19 and the ice storms have shown us that we need Paramedics to have access to education to become the next EMS leaders.

Jacquelynn Cantu

Self

Austin, TX

I support this bill because COVID-19 and the ice storms have shown us that we need Paramedics to have access to education to become the next EMS leaders. Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics that will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community.

Angela Saldivar

Self

Burnet, TX

Please consider

Janel Allen

Self/Paramedic

Kyle, TX

EMS personnel are a very important part of public health and safety. They should be provided the same opportunities as police and firefighters to access education.

Erika Esquivel

Self

Austin, TX

I agree with this.

Jessica Acosta

Ems

Austin, TX

We need our ems teams!!

Xiao-Song Xie

self - scientist

Dallas, TX

Texas needs educated paramedics to develop our next set of leaders.

patrick murphy

Austin Travis County EMS

Kyle, TX

support this bill because COVID-19 and the ice storms have shown us that we need Paramedics to have access to education to become the next EMS leaders. Additionally, EMS is a safety net for healthcare and it is shortsighted to omit the profession; it is just as valuable, arguably more valuable a service line than fire or police. Do a ride out with any EMS service and open your eyes.

Hailey Copland

Self

Austin, TX

Municipal fighter fighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as other vital safety employees.

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Anne Westby

Self, retired

Kyle, TX

EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics, who will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community.

Thank you

Jordan Malone

Self

Austin, TX

As a medic working for a government agency in central Texas, the ability to further my education in Emergency Medical Services the same way Texas firefighter can currently further their education in Fire Science would not just be an amazing benefit for my practice of medicine, but an incredible investment for the State of Texas as more of its citizens receive an even higher level of emergency medical care.

Leena Asmar

Self

Plano, TX

I support this bill

Jessica Howell

Self

Manchaca, TX

I support this bill because COVID-19 and the ice storms have shown us that we need Paramedics to have access to education to become the next EMS leaders. Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics that will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community..

jorge rosas

Paramedics

Austin, TX

I support this bill because covid and the ice storm has shown us how important paramedics are to the community

jorge rosas

Paramedics

Austin, TX

I support this bill because covid and the ice storm has prove that paramedics are very important for the community they deserve higher education since they are the ones providing the care for people in need.

Stephanie Cunningham

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Self

Austin, TX

On a practical/policy level: Municipal firefighters and police officers already have access to tuition exemption. Because of their certifications, EMS providers are expected to have more extensive education prior to hire and should reasonably have the same access to higher education as other public safety employees.

On a personal level: My late spouse always wanted to pursue his bachelor's degree but found the financial burden of that coursework stressful (and therefore slow-going). Working 60 hour weeks in a trauma-inducing job just to pay for your degree creates enormous barriers. While he isn't here to see this bill come before Committee, we both believe that critical healthcare providers like our EMTs and Paramedics shouldn't have to pull enormous overtime on top of their current schedules just to afford pursuing more extensive education.

Daniel Brown

Self EMT

Georgetown, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.

Hailey Lasley, Medic

Self. Medic.

Niederwald, TX

EMS has proven time and time again we are more than worthy of being added to this tuition program. There is nothing more or less about us against police or fire agencies.

Clayton Ray

Self, paramedic

Austin, TX

Paramedics are the backbone of Public Safety and are continuously put on the back burner. As a Paramedic, I ask you to please consider how important this really is. Allow us to continue to serve our community with equal access to resources we so desperately need.

Margaret Webber

Self, RN

Austin, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.

Shannon Koesterer

Austin ems association

Austin, TX

"I support this bill because COVID-19 and the ice storms have shown us that we need Paramedics to have access to education to become the next EMS leaders."

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Alyssa Vaughan Aguilar

Paramedics

Allen, TX

The paramedics deserve just as much as the police the fire get even more! They risk their lives everyday! They are the main fighters and saviors!!

chris Hairston

self

austin, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.

Jennifer Moore

Self 911 dispatcher

Lockhart, TX

Paramedics need this access and will use it to improve their ability to help save lives. Make this happen!

Sara Wilmot

Self

Georgetown, TX

Police and firefighters already receive this help. With the ability to continue on to higher education we can have more nurses, PAs, doctors etc and it also motivates these paramedics to stay up to date on clinical practices.

Walt Settlemyre

ATCEMSEA

Kyle, TX

"I support this bill because COVID-19 and the ice storms have shown us that we need Paramedics to have access to education to become the next EMS leaders."

"Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees."

"EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics that will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community."

Melanie Pati

Self - Municipal medic

Austin, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.

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Saul Cuevas
Self, Paramedic
Austin, TX

I support this bill because COVID-19 and the ice storms have shown us that we need Paramedics to have access to education to become the next EMS leaders. Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees. EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics that will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community.

Brittini Brockman
Self - Paramedic
Liberty Hill, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.

Courtney Meyer
Municipal Paramedic
Leander, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees. EMS has and will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics that will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community.

Courtney Meyer, EMT-P

Lindsey Rutledge, Field Medic
Self - Field Medic
Pflugerville, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.

Simon Powell-Evans, Paramedic
Self
Austin, TX

I support this bill because COVID-19 and the ice storms have shown us that we need Paramedics to have access to education to become the next EMS leaders.

Andrew Stanchfield
Paramedic
Kyle, TX

I support this bill because COVID-19 and the ice storms have shown us that we need Paramedics to have access to education to become the next EMS leaders.
Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public

safety employees.

EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics that will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community.

Sarah Royo

Self

Buda, TX

EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics that will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community.

Jennifer Blaine

Atcems

Lockhart, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees. EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics that will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community.

Melody Malone, Paramedic

self - paramedic

Buda, TX

Paramedics should receive the same tuition exemptions that firefighters and law enforcement officers receive! Increasing the education of paramedics will be beneficial to communities and those we serve!

Micah Morgan

Self- paramedic

Round Rock, TX

I support this bill because municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees. Recent events like COVID-19 and the ice storms have shown us that we need Paramedics to have access to education to become the next EMS leaders.

Katie Lorenz

Self / Medic

Round Rock, TX

Our role within the community has always been integral, ever since the beginning of our industry. And yet, as chronic illness continues to be the leading cause of death in our country, we will have more responsibility in the future. The advent of COVID-19 has further proven the necessity of EMS, and how considerable investments in EMS benefit the citizens they serve, and our most vulnerable populations. We must provide access to education for our medics that will choose to pursue leadership positions in the future. Those who have served on the frontlines will be best suited to lead the charge, and they should be provided access to the same educational benefits as municipal firefighters and police."

William Clark

Austin EMS

San Marcos, TX

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EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to education for our medics that will be responsible for taking care of the most vulnerable in our community. COVID-19 and the ice storms have shown us that we need Paramedics to have more education to help further adapt to the ever evolving environment as the EMS role increases in the community as an adjunct to the healthcare system overall.

Lauren Albair

Family member of a Paramedic

Brazoria, TX

Police and Fire have education exemption and I think paramedics should too. They are just as vital to our communities and should be offered the same opportunities.

Matthew Paul

Self

Dripping Springs, TX

EMS is the youngest public safety profession, yet the pandemic and recent winter storm have demonstrated the willingness for those in this profession to serve their communities selflessly. The demand for EMS continues to grow exponentially. Education opportunities are necessary to ensure leaders of this service work to ensure successful delivery of care and that the public funds used to support this service are managed responsibly. This small investment in tomorrow's public safety leaders will benefit those depending on EMS for generations to come.

Lajoy Richter

Self store clerk

Ganado, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.

Elizabeth Richter

Self

Lake Jackson, TX

EMS will have more responsibility in the future and we must provide access to our medics who will be responsible for caring for the most vulnerable in our community.

Brett Meyer, Paramedic Lieutenant

Self

Leander, TX

I am a paramedic working for a county run EMS agency. I am requesting your support of HB 582. Municipal firefighters, police officers and sheriff's deputies have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees. More education will help create better leaders and stewards of tax dollars.

Morgan Ambler

Self, Paramedic

Austin, TX

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This provision to extend the tuition exemption to paramedics is a fantastic move and will help attract and retain paramedics. Texas has some of the best EMS systems in the country and this provision will help to keep it that way and encourage further development of the paramedic profession in Texas.

Danielle Collins

Self, Municipal Paramedic

Georgetown, TX

As a municipal paramedic, I am responsible for managing all responders on a medical scene to care for our population's most vulnerable citizens. The police officers and firefighters on that scene have access to higher education at no cost, but I do not. EMS providers are the leaders in these public safety settings and the most autonomous members of the health care team, yet we do not have access to the education benefits of our fellow first responders. It is time to offer an equitable solution to municipal EMS providers. Please support HB 582.

Philip Barquer, Mr.

Self, a municipal paramedic

New Braunfels, TX

EMS is the youngest public safety profession, yet the pandemic and recent winter storm have demonstrated the willingness for those in this profession to serve their communities selflessly. The demand for EMS continues to grow exponentially. Education opportunities are necessary to ensure leaders of this service work to ensure successful delivery of care and that the public funds used to support this service are managed responsibly. This small investment in tomorrow's public safety leaders will benefit those depending on EMS for generations to come.

Caiti Thornhill

Austin Travis county ems

Hutto, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.

Amy Gottheimer

Self

Austin, TX

I support this bill because for all EMS do for us, they deserve the same educational opportunities as other first responders. Especially given their use during COVID-19 and the ice storms. Paramedics need support to become the next EMS leaders.

James Puckett

Self

Austin, TX

EMS is constantly treated as less than police and fire. This is a step in the right direction for equality within public safety.

Eric Richter

Self

New Braunfels, TX

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EMS will continue to have an increased role in the future of public safety, and having access to higher education will help our medics that will be responsible for our most vulnerable population.

Lacee Green

Austin Travis County EMS

Killeen, TX

Na

Janelle Boone, Retired Commander

Self -Retired Commander & Cancer Survivor

Austin, TX

"Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as the other vital public safety employees."

Frank Watson, CPhT

Self, Pharmacy Technician

Wills Point, TX

I fully support this bill.

Justin Aaron

Self, Paramedic

Lakeway, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers have access to tuition exemption. EMS should have the same access as vital public safety employees.

Brandon Means

NTREMS

Lindale, TX

I am in strong support of HB 582. This would be a major step in achieving equality among public safety professionals. Excluding paramedics from the same benefits as their firefighter and law enforcement colleagues is a slap in the face. Denying the same access to education for paramedics is discriminatory and is a disservice to the citizens who would eventually benefit.

Travis Baker

Self

Austin, TX

Fully support this bill. With time EMS and paramedics have transitioned from technician to medical professional. Giving medics the opportunity to catch up with formal education at a reduced rate helps develop high quality, critical thinking and well rounded clinicians we strive to have available for our Texas citizens in time of crisis. This is not saying that those without formal education do not provide valued service, yet gives a pathway to build and expand education to medics that otherwise may not have that opportunity. Please consider passing and enacting this bill.

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William Leggio, Dr.

Self

Round Rock, TX

I support this bill as the benefit of degrees in EMS are beginning to be recognized as a path towards professionalism and evidence based practice. It also begins to place EMS on level ground with our healthcare and public safety partners. The degreed paramedic is specifically described as a clinician of the future in EMS Agenda 2050, our profession's national visionary document that was formed based on robust industry input. In fact, one of the in person sessions was hosted in Dallas and enjoyed the highest attendance of any 2050 event. Just as Texas is a leader of accredited paramedic education with the greatest number of programs than any other state, this bill serves another opportunity for the State of Texas to lead EMS education and serve as an example for others.

Jason Pickett

Self

Round Rock, TX

Paramedics have proven time and again that they will bravely face whatever they have to on behalf of the people they serve. When the pandemic hit, none of them quit or said they wouldn't respond, running call after call in people's homes despite not fully knowing the risks of this deadly disease. When the ice storm hit, day after day they braved horrific roads, slept on the floor of the dispatch center, stayed for days in stations with no power or water. For this they have been called heroes.

Day after day they have shown that through creative thinking and a solid knowledge base, they can apply solutions that are right for our patients. The paramedic is the only healthcare professional who makes independent, life-changing decisions for patients but have no degree requirements. To advance this field of medicine, necessary in the extremely complex healthcare system we inhabit, we must make an easier pathway to support degrees for paramedics. The treatment a patient receives in the hospital starts out in the field, where a paramedic halts the downward spiral of physiology and begins the process of resuscitation. The prehospital phase is part of the continuum of care a patient receives, from the 911 call through the hospital admission to discharge. The smartest doctors and nurses in the world can do nothing for a corpse if the right care has not been applied prior to arrival. A robust knowledge base is required not only for critical care, but to solve the complex healthcare needs of our population, many of whom are not best served by a very expensive visit to an emergency room. This comprehensive and efficient care can only be provided by providers with the educational foundation that can be conferred by degrees.

James Campbell, Chief of EMS

Montgomery County Hospital District

Conroe, TX

For the last 52 years, paramedics have played an important and increasing role in the United States healthcare system. Perhaps more evident now than ever before, the role paramedics have played during the COVID-19 pandemic has shed some light on how vital this profession is for our healthcare system. In conjunction with our daily clinical duties, many paramedics across the state have expanding their skill set to treat patients in their home or transport patients to alternative destinations. The ability for paramedics to alter their treatment decision making process helps our hospital systems from becoming overcrowded but it also is a cost savings for patients.

Paramedics are unique because of the care and environment in which we perform in on a regularly basis. We can critically think, overcome challenges, provide excellent customer service, and when called upon we can be the "Swiss army knife" for healthcare. One example of this is many paramedics across the state are staffing COVID-19 vaccine sites in addition to their regular duties.

Paramedics might be considered a trade profession by some, but we need to continue to develop as a profession. A large part of the personal and professional develop of paramedics is in a classroom of higher education. HB582 is important because it gives paramedics the chance to seek higher education with less of a financial hardship. College most certainly offers educational opportunities, but it also teaches organizational skills, time management, diligence, and work ethic.

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Personally, I started working towards a college degree directly after graduating high school. I can proudly say that I just received my college degree in December of 2020, 18 years after I started my college course work. I share this because paramedics across the state are juggling shift work schedules, family obligations, and managing their finances in order to continue their education while also caring for their families. HB582 will offer paramedics the chance to get a college education in a more timely manner and with less worry about how to manage work, family, and school. Many of the paramedics at the Montgomery County Hospital District are in college. They are working on degrees in technology, health care administration, business management and so many other relevant topics to healthcare. Our paramedics are dedicated to MCHD and Montgomery County, and offering a route for reduced cost college education not only improves our organization and the services we provide, it improves our county.

As paramedics we see an evolving healthcare system. We want to be included and involved with these changes, but in order to have a seat at the table amongst our colleagues in those important conversations we also need to have the educational experience and background to be of more value.

Thank you sincerely for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,
James Campbell
Chief of EMS
Montgomery County Hospital District

Bryan Fitzpatrick
Self
Leander, TX

Municipal firefighters and police officers already enjoy access to full higher education tuition exemption. EMS should be afforded the same access as they are equally vital public safety employees.

Arthur Simon
self, artist
Austin, TX

I support this bill because qualified first responders bring lots of experience to the medical field and deserve ways to ease the cost of med school.

Joshua Todd
Rockdale Fire Department
Rockdale, TX

I support HB 582 exempting tuition and lab fees at higher education institutions for paramedics. If we expect to advance this field of EMS, which has been desperately needed since its founding a half century ago, then paramedics must have the strong educational foundation to get there. Similar measures and acted for police officers and firefighters have been instrumental in educating and professionalizing these careers. Gone are the days where we merely throw someone in a hearse and drive them to their death or definitive care, now we bring hospital emergency room level definitive care to the side of the patient in their home. This will be one of the best investments Texans can make in protecting their families for decades to come.

John Hamilton, Senior Flight Paramedic
Self
Liberty Hill, TX

The paramedics taking care of each of us, especially after COVID deserve this exemption. Please help us help you. Better

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educated paramedics will have a massive effect on the healthcare community and State of Texas.

Kelsie Jirasek

Atcems/Ael

Salado, TX