

By: Garcia of Bexar

H.B. No. 5063

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to tuition and fee exemptions for former foster children with intellectual disabilities to attend comprehensive transition and postsecondary programs at a public institution of higher education.

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

SECTION 1. Section 54.2002, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 54.2002. EXEMPTIONS AND WAIVERS FOR STATE-FUNDED COURSES ONLY. (a) Notwithstanding any other law and subject to Subsection (b), a mandatory or discretionary exemption or waiver from the payment of tuition or other fees under this subchapter or another provision of this code applies only to courses for which an institution of higher education receives formula funding.

(b) This section does not apply to an exemption for certain students from the payment of tuition and fees for a comprehensive transition and postsecondary program under Section 54.366(a-1) or 54.367(a-1).

SECTION 2. Section 54.366, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) A student described by Subsection (a) who is a student with an intellectual disability, as defined by 20 U.S.C. Section 1140, is exempt from the payment of tuition and fees authorized by this chapter for a comprehensive transition and postsecondary

1 program, as defined by that section.

2 SECTION 3. Section 54.367, Education Code, is amended by
3 adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

4 (a-1) A student described by Subsection (a) who has an
5 intellectual disability, as defined by 20 U.S.C. Section 1140, is
6 exempt from the payment of tuition and fees authorized by this
7 chapter for a comprehensive transition and postsecondary program,
8 as defined by that section.

9 SECTION 4. The changes in law made by this Act apply
10 beginning with the 2025-2026 academic year.

11 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
12 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
13 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
14 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
15 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.