

By: Thibaut

H.B. No. 2347

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to tuition and laboratory fee exemptions at public  
3 institutions of higher education for certain peace officers  
4 enrolled in criminal justice or law enforcement management-related  
5 course work.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 54.208, Education Code, is amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 Sec. 54.208. FIREFIGHTERS AND PEACE OFFICERS [~~FIREMEN~~]  
10 ENROLLED IN CERTAIN [~~FIRE SCIENCE~~] COURSES. (a) The governing  
11 board of an institution of higher education [~~boards of the state~~  
12 ~~institutions of collegiate rank supported in whole or in part by~~  
13 ~~public funds~~] shall exempt from the payment of tuition and  
14 laboratory fees a student [~~any person~~] who:

15 (1) is employed as a firefighter [~~fireman~~] by a political [~~any~~]  
16 subdivision of this [~~the~~] state and who enrolls in a  
17 course or courses offered as part of a fire science curriculum; or

18 (2) is employed as a peace officer by a political  
19 subdivision of this state and who enrolls in a course or courses  
20 offered as part of a criminal justice or law enforcement  
21 management-related curriculum designed for peace officers.

22 (b) An [~~The~~] exemption provided under this section does not  
23 apply to deposits that [~~which~~] may be required in the nature of  
24 security for the return or proper care of property loaned for the

1 use of students.

2           SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act to Section  
3 54.208, Education Code, apply beginning with tuition and laboratory  
4 fees charged for the 2009 fall semester. Tuition and laboratory  
5 fees charged for an academic period before the 2009 fall semester  
6 are covered by the law in effect immediately before the effective  
7 date of this Act, and the former law is continued in effect for that  
8 purpose.

9           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
13 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.