

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1476
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Finance
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As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, the law only offers children who turn 18 while in foster care an exemption from payment of tuition at a state university. Many families are hesitant to adopt older children due to the fact that they cannot afford the full cost of sending a child to college. S.B. 1476 would allow children in the foster care system who are eligible for adoption and who are age 14 or older an exemption from payment of tuition at a state university.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 1476 allows children in the foster care system who are eligible for adoption and who are age 14 or older an exemption from payment of tuition at a state university.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 54.211, Education Code, to provide that a student is exempt from payment of tuition and fees authorized in this chapter, if the student was in foster or residential care on or after the day of the student's 14th birthday, if the student was also eligible for adoption on or after that day or if the student enrolls in an institution of higher education not later than the third anniversary of the date the student was discharged from foster or residential care or the student's 21st birthday, whichever is later.

SECTION 2. Provides that this Act applies beginning with tuition and fees for the 1997 fall semester.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.