

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
78R1128 JSA-D

S.B. 258
By: West
Education Committee
2/13/2003
As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, Texas law allows community colleges, but not four-year colleges and universities, to waive tuition and fees for students enrolled in high school and college concurrently. Concurrent enrollment reduces the cost of a college education and the time it takes to earn a college degree. Concurrent enrollment also reduces the amount of money the state pays for high school funding for a student. Including four-year colleges and universities in concurrent enrollment would increase students' educational options, and possibly increase the savings to the state. As proposed, S.B. 258 authorizes four-year colleges and universities to waive all or part of the tuition and fees for a student concurrently enrolled in high school and a four-year college or university.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 54D, Education Code, by adding Section 54.216, as follows:

Sec. 54.216. STUDENTS ENROLLED IN COURSE FOR CONCURRENT HIGH SCHOOL AND COLLEGE-LEVEL CREDIT. Authorizes the governing board of an institution of higher education to waive all or part of its tuition and fees for a student enrolled in a course that allows the student to receive, simultaneously, credit toward high school academic requirements and a degree offered by the institution.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2003.