



Tommy
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Texas Senator

COLLEGE TUITION FREEZE: NEEDED RELIEF IN TOUGH ECONOMIC TIMES

State Tuition Moratorium Bill supported strongly by 16 State Senators - and Growing

Saving and paying for our children to attend college has always been a major concern for Texas parents, but in tough economic times these concerns are amplified. Today, too many families are caught in a financial squeeze when they begin saving or paying for surging college tuition at our state's universities.

According to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, tuition rates at our four-year public universities have increased by 53 percent since 2003. This is roughly a 10.6 percent increase every year since 2003. I believe that is unacceptable.

At this pace, many parents will be faced with the tough decision between providing for their children to attend college or providing for their families. My goal is to help Texas families find relief from escalating tuition increases.

That is why I am co-authoring SB 105, known as the Tuition Moratorium Bill. The proposed legislation would freeze tuition rates at Texas public universities for two years, and would tie any future increase to the rate of inflation. SB 105 also re-establishes legislative oversight on all tuition rates at our four-year public universities.

The education of our college-aged youth should NOT be compromised because families cannot afford to keep up with rising tuition rates. We must continue to take steps to ensure our young people can receive the best possible education at affordable prices.

If you agree with me on freezing college tuition, please write a letter to the editor in your local newspaper. I'll be sure to keep you up to date on the progress of this issue as it moves through the legislature this session.


Tommy