

Amend **HB 3209** by adding the following appropriately numbered SECTION and renumbering the other SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

SECTION _____. Subchapter F, Chapter 61, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 61.2251 to read as follows:

Sec. 61.2251. LIMITATION ON ELIGIBILITY FOR GRANT. (a) A person's eligibility for a tuition equalization grant ends on the fifth anniversary of the initial award of a tuition equalization grant to the person and the person's enrollment in an approved college or university, unless the person is provided additional time during which the person may receive a tuition equalization grant under Subsection (b).

(b) The board shall adopt rules to provide a person who is otherwise eligible to receive a tuition equalization grant additional time during which the person may receive a grant in the event of a hardship or other good cause shown that prevents the person from continuing the person's enrollment during the period the person would otherwise have been eligible to receive a grant under Subsection (a), including a showing of a severe illness or other debilitating condition or that the person is or was responsible for the care of a sick, injured, or needy person.

(c) Notwithstanding any other law, the provisions of this section relating to the period of eligibility also apply to eligibility for a TEXAS Grant.