

By: McClendon

H.B. No. 91

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the automatic admission of certain undergraduate transfer students.

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

SECTION 1. Section 51.801, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 51.801. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter, "general academic teaching institution," "governing board," "medical and dental unit," "public junior college," "public technical institute," and "university system" have the meanings assigned by Section 61.003.

SECTION 2. Subchapter U, Chapter 51, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 51.8065 to read as follows:

Sec. 51.8065. AUTOMATIC ADMISSION: UNDERGRADUATE TRANSFER STUDENTS. (a) Each general academic teaching institution shall admit an applicant for admission to the institution as an undergraduate transfer student if in the year preceding the academic year for which the applicant is applying for admission under this section the applicant:

(1) received a degree or certificate from a public junior college or public technical institute in a program requiring at least 30 semester credit hours, including the courses required in the core curriculum established under Section 61.822; and

(2) completed the program with a cumulative grade

1 point average of at least a 3.0 on a four-point scale or the  
2 equivalent.

3 (b) To qualify for admission under this section, an  
4 applicant must submit an application before the expiration of any  
5 application filing deadline established by the institution.

6 (c) After admitting an applicant under this section, the  
7 institution may review the applicant's record and any other factor  
8 the institution considers appropriate to determine whether the  
9 applicant may require additional preparation for college-level  
10 work or would benefit from inclusion in a retention program. The  
11 institution may require a student so identified to enroll during  
12 the summer immediately after the student is admitted under this  
13 section to participate in appropriate enrichment courses and  
14 orientation programs. This section does not prohibit a student who  
15 is not determined to need additional preparation for college-level  
16 work from enrolling, if the student chooses, during the summer  
17 immediately after the student is admitted under this section.

18 (d) Admission to a specific institution is contingent upon  
19 the institution having space available for admission of additional  
20 students.

21 (e) An institution may have requirements for admission to a  
22 particular program or school that exceed a 3.0 average. Admissions  
23 to a particular program or school within an institution shall be  
24 based on the requirements of the institution.

25 SECTION 3. (a) This Act takes effect immediately and  
26 applies beginning with admissions for the 2004 fall semester.

27 (b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and each

1 general academic teaching institution shall adopt rules or policies  
2 relating to the admission of students under Section 51.8065,  
3 Education Code, as added by this Act, not later than January 1,  
4 2003.

5 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.