

By: Haggerty

H.B. No. 564

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to an exemption for certain military personnel and  
3 veterans from the requirements of the Texas Academic Skills  
4 Program.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 51.306(r), Education Code, is amended to  
7 read as follows:

8 (r) This section does not apply to:

9 (1) a student who accumulated three or more  
10 college-level semester credit hours prior to the 1989 fall  
11 semester;

12 (2) a student located outside this state who enrolls  
13 in a course offered outside this state by an institution of higher  
14 education;

15 (3) a deaf student;

16 (4) a student who has graduated with a baccalaureate  
17 degree from an institution of higher education, an accredited  
18 private or independent institution of higher education, or an  
19 accredited out-of-state institution of higher education;

20 (5) a student enrolled in a certificate program at a  
21 community or technical college of one year or less;

22 (6) a student who is a citizen of a country other than  
23 the United States and is not seeking a degree; [~~or~~]

24 (7) a student who is serving on active duty as a member

1 of:

2 (A) the armed forces of the United States; or

3 (B) the Texas National Guard;

4 (8) a student who is currently serving as and, for at  
5 least the three-year period preceding enrollment, has served as a  
6 member of a reserve component of the armed forces of the United  
7 States; or

8 (9) a student who on or after August 1, 1990, was  
9 honorably discharged, retired, or released from:

10 (A) active duty as a member of the armed forces of  
11 the United States or the Texas National Guard; or

12 (B) service as a member of a reserve component of  
13 the armed forces of the United States.

14 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
15 to a student who enrolls at a public institution of higher education  
16 for a semester or summer session that begins on or after the  
17 effective date of this Act.

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
19 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
20 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
21 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
22 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.