

1-1 By: Heflin, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Ratliff) H.B. No. 3209
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 19, 2003;
1-3 May 20, 2003, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Education; May 26, 2003, reported favorably, as amended, by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 1; May 26, 2003, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO. 1 By: Zaffirini

1-7 Amend House Bill 3209 by inserting the following SECTION 2,
1-8 SECTION 3 AND SECTION 4, renumbering subsequent SECTIONS
1-9 accordingly:

1-10 SECTION 2. Section 56.304(a)(5), Education Code, is amended
1-11 to read as follows:

1-12 (A) an entering undergraduate student for [~~at least three~~
1-13 ~~fourths of~~] a full course load for an entering undergraduate
1-14 student, as determined by the coordinating board, not later than
1-15 the 16th month after the date of the person's graduation from high
1-16 school; or

1-17 (B) an entering student for [~~at least three-fourths of~~] a
1-18 full course load for an undergraduate student as determined by the
1-19 coordinating board, not later than the 12th month after the month
1-20 the person receives an associate degree from an eligible
1-21 institution;

1-22 SECTION 3. Section 56.305(a)(3), Education Code, is amended
1-23 to read as follows:

1-24 (3) is enrolled for [~~at least three-fourths~~] a full
1-25 course load for an undergraduate student, as determined by the
1-26 coordinating board;

1-27 SECTION 4. Section 56.304(f), Education Code, is amended to
1-28 read as follows:

1-29 (f) A person's eligibility for a TEXAS Grant ends on the
1-30 [~~sixth~~] fifth anniversary of the initial award of a TEXAS grant to
1-31 the person and the person's enrollment in an eligible institution,
1-32 unless the person is provided additional time during which the
1-33 person may receive a TEXAS grant under this subsection. The
1-34 coordinating board shall adopt rules to provide a person who is
1-35 otherwise eligible to receive a TEXAS grant in the event of a
1-36 hardship or other good cause shown that prevents the person from
1-37 continuing the person's enrollment during the period the person
1-38 would otherwise have been eligible to receive a TEXAS grant,
1-39 including a showing of a severe illness or other debilitating
1-40 condition or that the person is or was responsible for the care of a
1-41 sick, injured, or needy person. This section applies to a new TEXAS
1-42 grant recipients beginning on or after the 2003 fall semester.

1-43 COMMITTEE AMENDMENT NO. 2 By: West

1-44 Amend HB 3209 by adding Sec. 56.3041 to read as follows and renumber
1-45 accordingly:

1-46 SECTION 1. Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education Code, as
1-47 added by Chapter 1590, Acts of the 76th Legislature, Regular
1-48 Session, 1999, is amended by adding Section 56.3041 to read as
1-49 follows:

1-50 Sec. 56.3041. INITIAL ELIGIBILITY OF PERSON ON TRACK TO
1-51 COMPLETE RECOMMENDED OR ADVANCED CURRICULUM. (a) If at the time
1-52 an eligible institution awards TEXAS grants to initial recipients
1-53 for an academic year an applicant has not completed high school or
1-54 the applicant's final high school transcript is not yet available
1-55 to the institution, the student is considered to have satisfied the
1-56 requirements of Section 56.304(a)(2)(A) if the student's available
1-57 high school transcript indicates that at the time the transcript
1-58 was prepared the student was on schedule to graduate from high
1-59 school and to complete the recommended or advanced high school
1-60 curriculum or its equivalent, as applicable to the student, in time
1-61 to be eligible for a TEXAS grant for the academic year.

1-62 (b) The coordinating board or the eligible institution may

2-1 require the student to forgo or repay the amount of an initial TEXAS
2-2 grant awarded to the student as described by Subsection (a) if the
2-3 student fails to complete the recommended or advanced high school
2-4 curriculum or its equivalent after the issuance of the available
2-5 high school transcript.

2-6 (c) A person who is required to forgo or repay the amount of
2-7 an initial TEXAS grant under Subsection (b) may become eligible to
2-8 receive an initial TEXAS grant under Section 56.304 by satisfying
2-9 the associate degree requirement prescribed by Section
2-10 56.304(a)(2)(B) and the other applicable requirements of that
2-11 section at the time the person reapplies for the grant.

2-12 (d) A person who receives an initial TEXAS grant under
2-13 Subsection (a) and is not required to forgo or repay the amount of
2-14 the grant under Subsection (b) may become eligible to receive a
2-15 subsequent TEXAS grant under Section 56.305 only by satisfying the
2-16 associate degree requirement prescribed by Section 56.304(a)(2)(B)
2-17 in addition to the requirements of Section 56.305 at the time the
2-18 person applies for the subsequent grant.

2-19 SECTION 2. Subsection (g), Section 56.305, Education Code,
2-20 as added by Chapter 1590, Acts of the 76th Legislature, Regular
2-21 Session, 1999, is amended to read as follows:

2-22 (g) The coordinating board shall adopt rules to allow a
2-23 person who is otherwise eligible to receive a TEXAS grant, in the
2-24 event of a hardship or for other good cause shown, including a
2-25 showing of a severe illness or other debilitating condition that
2-26 may affect the person's academic performance or that the person is
2-27 responsible for the care of a sick, injured, or needy person and
2-28 that the person's provision of care may affect the person's academic
2-29 performance, to receive a TEXAS grant :

2-30 (1) while enrolled in a number of semester credit
2-31 hours that is less than the number of semester credit hours required
2-32 under Subsection (a)(3); or

2-33 (2) if the student's grade point average or completion
2-34 rate falls below the satisfactory academic progress requirements of
2-35 Subsection (e). [~~The coordinating board may not allow a person to
2-36 receive a TEXAS grant while enrolled in fewer than six semester
2-37 credit hours.~~]

2-38 SECTION 3. Subsection (f), Section 56.307, Education Code,
2-39 as added by Chapter 1590, Acts of the 76th Legislature, Regular
2-40 Session, 1999, is amended to read as follows:

2-41 (f) The amount of a TEXAS grant may not be reduced by any
2-42 gift aid for which the person receiving the grant is eligible,
2-43 unless the total amount of a person's grant plus any gift aid
2-44 received exceeds the student's financial need [~~total cost of
2-45 attendance at an eligible institution~~].

2-46 SECTION 4. The change in law made by this Act relating to
2-47 the eligibility of a person to receive a TEXAS grant applies
2-48 beginning with students who demonstrate eligibility to receive a
2-49 grant for the 2003-2004 academic year, to the extent TEXAS grants
2-50 are awarded for that academic year after the effective date of this
2-51 Act.

2-52 SECTION 5. Section 56.3041 takes effect immediately if it
2-53 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each
2-54 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.
2-55 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate
2-56 effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

2-57 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2-58 AN ACT

2-59 relating to the amount of financial assistance a student may
2-60 receive under the TEXAS grant and tuition equalization grant
2-61 programs.

2-62 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

2-63 SECTION 1. Section 56.307(h), Education Code, is amended to
2-64 read as follows:

2-65 (h) The total amount of grants that a student may receive in
2-66 an academic year under this subchapter and under Section 61.221 may
2-67 not exceed the total amount of tuition and required fees charged to

3-1 the student for the academic periods for which one or more of the
3-2 grants were awarded [~~maximum amount authorized under Section~~
3-3 ~~61.227~~].

3-4 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies
3-5 beginning with the 2003-2004 academic year.

3-6 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
3-7 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
3-8 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3-9 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
3-10 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

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