## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

## AN ACT

relating to readmission to a public institution of higher education of students who withdraw to perform active military service.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS: SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 51, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 51.9242 to read as follows:

Sec. 51.9242. READMISSION OF STUDENT WHO WITHDRAWS TO PERFORM ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE. (a) This section applies only to a student who withdraws from an institution of higher education to perform active military service as a member of the United States armed forces or the Texas National Guard, except that this section does not apply to a student who withdraws from an institution solely to perform one or more training exercises as a member of the Texas National Guard.
(b) For any academic term that begins after the date a student described by Subsection (a) is released from active military service but not later than the first anniversary of that date, the institution of higher education from which the student withdrew shall readmit the student, without requiring reapplication, if the student is otherwise eligible to register for classes at the institution.
(c) An institution of higher education may adopt rules requiring reasonable proof from a student of the fact and duration of the student's active military service.

5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
SECTION 2. This Act applies beginning with readmissions to a public institution of higher education for the first semester or other academic term that begins after this Act takes effect.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

