

By: Van de Putte

S.B. No. 101

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to efficiently administering and electronically
3 monitoring certain veterans' and dependents' tuition exemptions at
4 institutions of higher education.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 54.203, Education Code, is amended by
7 adding Subsections (h) and (i) to read as follows:

8 (h) The governing board of each institution of higher
9 education shall electronically report to the Texas Higher Education
10 Coordinating Board the information required by Section 61.0516
11 relating to each individual receiving an exemption from fees and
12 charges under Subsection (a) or (b). The institution shall report
13 the information not later than December 31 of each year for the fall
14 semester, May 31 of each year for the spring semester, and September
15 30 of each year for the summer session.

16 (i) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board may adopt
17 rules to provide for the efficient and uniform application of this
18 section.

19 SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
20 amended by adding Section 61.0516 to read as follows:

21 Sec. 61.0516. ELECTRONIC SYSTEM TO MONITOR TUITION
22 EXEMPTIONS FOR VETERANS AND DEPENDENTS. The board shall develop a
23 system to electronically monitor the use of tuition exemptions
24 under Section 54.203. The system must allow the board to

1 electronically receive, for each semester, the following
2 information from institutions of higher education:

3 (1) the name of the institution;

4 (2) the name, identification number, and date of birth
5 of each individual attending the institution and receiving benefits
6 for the semester under Section 54.203;

7 (3) for each individual receiving benefits, the number
8 of credit hours for which the individual received an exemption for
9 the semester;

10 (4) for each individual receiving benefits at the
11 institution during the semester, the total cumulative number of
12 credit hours for which the individual has received an exemption at
13 the institution; and

14 (5) any other information required by the board.

15 SECTION 3. Not later than October 1, 2005, the Texas Higher
16 Education Coordinating Board shall develop the system required by
17 Section 61.0516, Education Code, as added by this Act.

18 SECTION 4. 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, 2005.