

1-1 By: Van de Putte S.B. No. 101
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed November 17, 2004; February 1, 2005,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Veteran Affairs and
1-4 Military Installations; April 4, 2005, reported adversely, with
1-5 favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 4,
1-6 Nays 0; April 4, 2005, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 101 By: Van de Putte

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to efficiently administering and electronically
1-11 monitoring certain veterans' and dependents' tuition exemptions at
1-12 institutions of higher education.

1-13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-14 SECTION 1. Section 54.203, Education Code, is amended by
1-15 adding Subsections (h) and (i) to read as follows:

1-16 (h) The governing board of each institution of higher
1-17 education shall electronically report to the Texas Higher Education
1-18 Coordinating Board the information required by Section 61.0516
1-19 relating to each individual receiving an exemption from fees and
1-20 charges under Subsection (a) or (b). The institution shall report
1-21 the information not later than December 31 of each year for the fall
1-22 semester, May 31 of each year for the spring semester, and September
1-23 30 of each year for the summer session.

1-24 (i) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board may adopt
1-25 rules to provide for the efficient and uniform application of this
1-26 section.

1-27 SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
1-28 amended by adding Section 61.0516 to read as follows:

1-29 Sec. 61.0516. ELECTRONIC SYSTEM TO MONITOR TUITION
1-30 EXEMPTIONS FOR VETERANS AND DEPENDENTS. The board shall develop a
1-31 system to electronically monitor the use of tuition exemptions
1-32 under Section 54.203. The system must allow the board to
1-33 electronically receive, for each semester, the following
1-34 information from institutions of higher education:

1-35 (1) the name of the institution;

1-36 (2) the name, identification number, and date of birth
1-37 of each individual attending the institution and receiving benefits
1-38 for the semester under Section 54.203;

1-39 (3) for each individual receiving benefits, the number
1-40 of credit hours for which the individual received an exemption for
1-41 the semester;

1-42 (4) for each individual receiving benefits at the
1-43 institution during the semester, the total cumulative number of
1-44 credit hours for which the individual has received an exemption at
1-45 the institution; and

1-46 (5) any other information required by the board.

1-47 SECTION 3. Not later than October 1, 2005, the Texas Higher
1-48 Education Coordinating Board shall develop the system required by
1-49 Section 61.0516, Education Code, as added by this Act.

1-50 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-51 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-52 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-53 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-54 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

1-55 * * * * *