

By: Van de Putte

S.B. No. 579

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the eligibility of children of certain military personnel to receive Texas B-On-time loans.

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

SECTION 1. Section 56.455, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 56.455. INITIAL ELIGIBILITY FOR LOAN. To be eligible initially for a Texas B-On-time loan, a person must:

(1) be a resident of this state under Section 54.052 or be entitled, as a child of a member of the armed forces of the United States, to pay tuition at the rate provided for residents of this state under Section 54.058 [~~for purposes of Subchapter B, Chapter 54~~];

(2) meet one of the following academic requirements:

(A) be a graduate of a public or accredited private high school in this state who graduated not earlier than the 2002-2003 school year under the recommended or advanced high school program established under Section 28.025(a); [~~or~~]

(B) be a graduate of a high school operated by the United States Department of Defense who:

(i) graduated from that school not earlier than the 2002-2003 school year; and

(ii) at the time of graduation from that school was a dependent child of a member of the armed forces of the

1 United States; or

2 (C) have received an associate degree from an
3 eligible institution not earlier than May 1, 2005;

4 (3) be enrolled for a full course load for an
5 undergraduate student, as determined by the coordinating board, in
6 an undergraduate degree or certificate program at an eligible
7 institution;

8 (4) be eligible for federal financial aid, except that
9 a person is not required to meet any financial need requirement
10 applicable to a particular federal financial aid program; and

11 (5) comply with any additional nonacademic
12 requirement adopted by the coordinating board under this
13 subchapter.

14 SECTION 2. (a) The change in law made by this Act relating
15 to the eligibility of a person to receive a Texas B-On-time loan
16 applies beginning with loans awarded for the 2005–2006 academic
17 year. Loans awarded for an academic year before the 2005–2006
18 academic year are covered by the law in effect immediately before
19 the effective date of this Act, and the former law is continued in
20 effect for that purpose.

21 (b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall
22 adopt rules for the administration of Section 56.455, Education
23 Code, as amended by this Act, as soon as practicable after this Act
24 takes effect. For that purpose, the coordinating board may adopt
25 the rules in the manner provided by law for emergency rules.

26 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
27 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

S.B. No. 579

1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.