

1-1 By: Van de Putte S.B. No. 579
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 17, 2005; March 1, 2005,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Veteran Affairs and
1-4 Military Installations; April 18, 2005, reported favorably by the
1-5 following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; April 18, 2005, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the eligibility of children of certain military
1-9 personnel to receive Texas B-On-time loans.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Section 56.455, Education Code, is amended to
1-12 read as follows:

1-13 Sec. 56.455. INITIAL ELIGIBILITY FOR LOAN. To be eligible
1-14 initially for a Texas B-On-time loan, a person must:

1-15 (1) be a resident of this state under Section 54.052 or
1-16 be entitled, as a child of a member of the armed forces of the United
1-17 States, to pay tuition at the rate provided for residents of this
1-18 state under Section 54.058 [~~for purposes of Subchapter B, Chapter~~
1-19 ~~54~~];

1-20 (2) meet one of the following academic requirements:

1-21 (A) be a graduate of a public or accredited
1-22 private high school in this state who graduated not earlier than the
1-23 2002-2003 school year under the recommended or advanced high school
1-24 program established under Section 28.025(a); [~~or~~]

1-25 (B) be a graduate of a high school operated by the
1-26 United States Department of Defense who:

1-27 (i) graduated from that school not earlier
1-28 than the 2002-2003 school year; and

1-29 (ii) at the time of graduation from that
1-30 school was a dependent child of a member of the armed forces of the
1-31 United States; or

1-32 (C) have received an associate degree from an
1-33 eligible institution not earlier than May 1, 2005;

1-34 (3) be enrolled for a full course load for an
1-35 undergraduate student, as determined by the coordinating board, in
1-36 an undergraduate degree or certificate program at an eligible
1-37 institution;

1-38 (4) be eligible for federal financial aid, except that
1-39 a person is not required to meet any financial need requirement
1-40 applicable to a particular federal financial aid program; and

1-41 (5) comply with any additional nonacademic
1-42 requirement adopted by the coordinating board under this
1-43 subchapter.

1-44 SECTION 2. (a) The change in law made by this Act relating
1-45 to the eligibility of a person to receive a Texas B-On-time loan
1-46 applies beginning with loans awarded for the 2005-2006 academic
1-47 year. Loans awarded for an academic year before the 2005-2006
1-48 academic year are covered by the law in effect immediately before
1-49 the effective date of this Act, and the former law is continued in
1-50 effect for that purpose.

1-51 (b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall
1-52 adopt rules for the administration of Section 56.455, Education
1-53 Code, as amended by this Act, as soon as practicable after this Act
1-54 takes effect. For that purpose, the coordinating board may adopt
1-55 the rules in the manner provided by law for emergency rules.

1-56 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-57 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-58 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-59 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-60 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

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