

By: Harris

S.B. No. 1844

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to scholarships for the fifth year of accounting programs at public and private institutions of higher education.

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

SECTION 1. Subsection (a), Section 61.756, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The board, in consultation with the advisory committee appointed under Section 61.757, shall determine the maximum amount of any scholarship awarded under this subchapter [~~is \$3,000~~]. The scholarship may be spent by the recipient on the expenses for tuition, fees, books, supplies, and living expenses incurred by the student in connection with the student's fifth year of an accounting program. Scholarships shall be made available to eligible students attending:

(1) any institution of higher education; [~~as defined by Section 61.003 of this code,~~] or

(2) any nonprofit independent institution approved by the board under Section 61.222 [~~of this code~~].

SECTION 2. Subsection (c), Section 61.757, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) In addition to any other duties assigned by the board, the advisory committee specifically shall advise the board on:

(1) how the scholarships provided for under this subchapter should be established and administered to best promote

1 the public purpose of the scholarships;

2 (2) the amount of money needed to adequately fund the
3 scholarships and the maximum amount that may be awarded in any given
4 year to an individual student; and

5 (3) any priorities among the factors identified by
6 Section 61.754 [~~of this code~~].

7 SECTION 3. (a) The changes in law made by this Act apply
8 only to the amount of a scholarship awarded under Subchapter N,
9 Chapter 61, Education Code, on or after the date this Act takes
10 effect. The amount of a scholarship awarded under Subchapter N,
11 Chapter 61, Education Code, before the date this Act takes effect is
12 governed by the law in effect on the date the scholarship is
13 awarded, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

14 (b) Before January 1, 2006, the Texas Higher Education
15 Coordinating Board may adopt rules for the administration of
16 Subsection (a), Section 61.756, Education Code, as amended by this
17 Act, in the manner provided by law for emergency rules.

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.