

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. Section 61.756(a), 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 any:

(1) 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. Section 61.757(c), 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 each scholarship and the amount of  
3 money needed to adequately fund the scholarships; and

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

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

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

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