

AN ACT

relating to prohibiting discrimination based on a student's secondary school in awarding certain financial aid for higher education.

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;

(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 its equivalent;

(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. The change in law made by this Act in amending
15 Section 56.455, Education Code, applies beginning with student
16 financial aid awarded for the 2008-2009 academic year. The change
17 in law does not affect student financial aid awarded for an academic
18 period before that academic year, and the former law is continued in
19 effect for that purpose.

20 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1250 was passed by the House on April 25, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 129, Nays 1, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 1250 on May 25, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 135, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1250 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 22, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor