

1-1 By: Howard of Fort Bend, et al. H.B. No. 1250
1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Patrick)
1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 26, 2007;
1-4 May 1, 2007, read first time and referred to Subcommittee on Higher
1-5 Education; May 18, 2007, reported favorably from Committee on
1-6 Education by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 1; May 18, 2007,
1-7 sent to printer.)

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to prohibiting discrimination based on a student's
1-11 secondary school in awarding certain financial aid for higher
1-12 education.

1-13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-14 SECTION 1. Section 56.304(a), Education Code, is amended to
1-15 read as follows:

1-16 (a) To be eligible initially for a TEXAS grant, a person
1-17 must:

1-18 (1) be a resident of this state as determined by
1-19 coordinating board rules;

1-20 (2) meet either of the following academic
1-21 requirements:

1-22 (A) be a graduate of a public or [~~accredited~~]
1-23 private high school in this state who graduated not earlier than the
1-24 1998-1999 school year and who completed the recommended or advanced
1-25 high school curriculum established under Section [~~28.002 or~~] 28.025
1-26 or its equivalent; or

1-27 (B) have received an associate degree from a
1-28 public or private institution of higher education not earlier than
1-29 May 1, 2001;

1-30 (3) meet financial need requirements as defined by the
1-31 coordinating board;

1-32 (4) be enrolled in an undergraduate degree or
1-33 certificate program at an eligible institution;

1-34 (5) be enrolled as:

1-35 (A) an entering undergraduate student for at
1-36 least three-fourths of a full course load for an entering
1-37 undergraduate student, as determined by the coordinating board, not
1-38 later than the 16th month after the date of the person's graduation
1-39 from high school; or

1-40 (B) an entering student for at least
1-41 three-fourths of a full course load for an undergraduate student as
1-42 determined by the coordinating board, not later than the 12th month
1-43 after the month the person receives an associate degree from a
1-44 public or private institution of higher education;

1-45 (6) have applied for any available financial aid or
1-46 assistance; and

1-47 (7) comply with any additional nonacademic
1-48 requirement adopted by the coordinating board under this
1-49 subchapter.

1-50 SECTION 2. Section 56.455, Education Code, is amended to
1-51 read as follows:

1-52 Sec. 56.455. INITIAL ELIGIBILITY FOR LOAN. To be eligible
1-53 initially for a Texas B-On-time loan, a person must:

1-54 (1) be a resident of this state under Section 54.052 or
1-55 be entitled, as a child of a member of the armed forces of the United
1-56 States, to pay tuition at the rate provided for residents of this
1-57 state under Section 54.058;

1-58 (2) meet one of the following academic requirements:

1-59 (A) be a graduate of a public or [~~accredited~~]
1-60 private high school in this state who graduated not earlier than the
1-61 2002-2003 school year under the recommended or advanced high school
1-62 program established under Section 28.025(a) or its equivalent;

1-63 (B) be a graduate of a high school operated by the
1-64 United States Department of Defense who:

2-1 (i) graduated from that school not earlier
2-2 than the 2002-2003 school year; and

2-3 (ii) at the time of graduation from that
2-4 school was a dependent child of a member of the armed forces of the
2-5 United States; or

2-6 (C) have received an associate degree from an
2-7 eligible institution not earlier than May 1, 2005;

2-8 (3) be enrolled for a full course load for an
2-9 undergraduate student, as determined by the coordinating board, in
2-10 an undergraduate degree or certificate program at an eligible
2-11 institution;

2-12 (4) be eligible for federal financial aid, except that
2-13 a person is not required to meet any financial need requirement
2-14 applicable to a particular federal financial aid program; and

2-15 (5) comply with any additional nonacademic
2-16 requirement adopted by the coordinating board under this
2-17 subchapter.

2-18 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act in amending
2-19 Sections 56.304(a) and 56.455, Education Code, applies beginning
2-20 with student financial aid awarded for the 2008-2009 academic year.
2-21 The change in law does not affect student financial aid awarded for
2-22 an academic period before that academic year, and the former law is
2-23 continued in effect for that purpose.

2-24 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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