

By: Shapiro, et al.

S.B. No. 101

Substitute the following for S.B. No. 101:

By: Howard of Travis

C.S.S.B. No. 101

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1

AN ACT

2 relating to the automatic admission of undergraduate students to  
3 general academic teaching institutions.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 51.803, Education Code, is amended by  
6 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (c) and (d) to read  
7 as follows:

8 (a) Subject to Subsections (c) and (d), each ~~Each~~ general  
9 academic teaching institution shall admit an applicant for  
10 admission to the institution as an undergraduate student if the  
11 applicant graduated with a grade point average in the top 10 percent  
12 of the student's high school graduating class in one of the two  
13 school years preceding the academic year for which the applicant is  
14 applying for admission and the applicant graduated from a public or  
15 private high school in this state accredited by a generally  
16 recognized accrediting organization or from a high school operated  
17 by the United States Department of Defense. To qualify for  
18 admission under this section, an applicant must submit an  
19 application before the expiration of any application filing  
20 deadline established by the institution and, if the applicant  
21 graduated from a high school operated by the United States  
22 Department of Defense, must be a Texas resident under Section  
23 54.052 or be entitled to pay tuition fees at the rate provided for  
24 Texas residents under Section 54.058(d) for the term or semester to

1 which admitted.

2 (c) A general academic teaching institution is not required  
3 to admit under Subsection (a) more than 50 percent of the  
4 institution's first-time resident undergraduate students in an  
5 academic year. If the number of applicants who qualify for  
6 automatic admission to a general academic teaching institution  
7 under Subsection (a) exceeds that percentage of the institution's  
8 enrollment capacity designated for first-time resident  
9 undergraduate students, the institution shall, except as provided  
10 by Subsection (d):

11 (1) offer admission to those applicants beginning with  
12 those who completed the curriculum requirements established under  
13 Section 28.025 for the recommended or advanced high school program  
14 or an equivalent curriculum at a high school to which that section  
15 does not apply;

16 (2) after offering admission to applicants under  
17 Subdivision (1), offer admission to the remaining applicants by  
18 percentile rank according to graduating class standing based on  
19 grade point average, beginning with the top percentile rank, until  
20 a sufficient number of applicants have accepted admission offers to  
21 fill that percentage of the institution's enrollment capacity  
22 designated for first-time resident undergraduate students, except  
23 that the institution must offer admission to all applicants with  
24 the same percentile rank; and

25 (3) after offering admission to applicants under  
26 Subdivisions (1) and (2), consider any remaining applicants  
27 qualified for automatic admission under Subsection (a) in the same

1 manner as other applicants for admission as first-time freshmen  
2 students in accordance with Section 51.805.

3 (d) If the number of applicants qualified for admission  
4 under Subsection (c)(1) exceeds the percentage of the institution's  
5 enrollment capacity designated for first-time resident  
6 undergraduate students specified by Subsection (c), the  
7 institution shall offer admission to those applicants by percentile  
8 rank according to graduating class standing based on grade point  
9 average, beginning with the top percentile rank, until a sufficient  
10 number of applicants have accepted admission offers to fill that  
11 percentage, except that the institution must offer admission to all  
12 applicants with the same percentile rank. The institution shall  
13 consider any remaining applicants qualified for automatic  
14 admission under Subsection (a), including remaining applicants  
15 qualified for admission under Subsection (c)(1), in the same manner  
16 as other applicants for admission as first-time freshmen students  
17 in accordance with Section 51.805.

18 SECTION 2. Section 51.807, Education Code, is amended to  
19 read as follows:

20 Sec. 51.807. RULEMAKING. (a) The Texas Higher Education  
21 Coordinating Board may adopt rules relating to the operation of  
22 admissions programs under this subchapter, including rules  
23 relating to the identification of eligible students [~~and the~~  
24 ~~reporting requirements of Section 51.806~~].

25 (b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board after  
26 consulting with the Texas Education Agency by rule shall establish  
27 standards for determining for purposes of this subchapter whether a

1 person completed a high school curriculum that is equivalent to the  
2 curriculum established under Section 28.025 for the recommended or  
3 advanced high school program.

4 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies  
5 beginning with admissions to institutions of higher education for  
6 the 2008-2009 academic year. Admissions to an institution of  
7 higher education before that academic year are covered by the law in  
8 effect before the effective date of this Act, and the former law is  
9 continued in effect for that purpose.

10 SECTION 4. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
11 shall adopt rules as required by Section 51.807(b), Education Code,  
12 as added by this Act, as soon as practicable after the effective  
13 date of this Act.

14 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.