

By: Ellis

S.B. No. 1176

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to a requirement that a full TEXAS grant be awarded to each
3 eligible applicant in an academic year.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 56.307, Education Code, is amended by
6 adding Subsection (m) to read as follows:

7 (m) Before the beginning of each academic year, the
8 coordinating board shall determine and certify to each eligible
9 institution the total amount of money necessary for the institution
10 to award, without reference to any factor that could affect a grant
11 award such as financial need, the full amount of a TEXAS grant to
12 each eligible applicant who enrolls at the institution during that
13 academic year. Except as otherwise provided by this subsection,
14 after the coordinating board certifies the total amount necessary
15 to award those grants with respect to an eligible institution, the
16 institution shall award the full amount of the TEXAS grant to each
17 eligible applicant who enrolls at the institution. Notwithstanding
18 any other law, an eligible institution that fails to satisfy the
19 requirements of this subsection may not spend any of the
20 institution's unobligated institutional funds or any money
21 appropriated to the institution for instruction or operations in
22 the academic year for which the coordinating board certified the
23 total amount necessary to award grants as required by this
24 subsection. An eligible institution may elect to reduce the amount

1 of a grant awarded to any eligible applicant only as permitted by
2 Subsections (i-1) and (j).

3 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies
4 beginning with TEXAS grants awarded for the 2008 fall semester.
5 Grants awarded for a semester or term before the 2008 fall semester
6 are covered by the applicable law in effect immediately before the
7 effective date of this Act, and the former law is continued in
8 effect for that purpose.

9 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
13 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.