

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 80TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 24, 2007

TO: Honorable David Dewhurst, Lieutenant Governor, Senate

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: SB101 by Shapiro (Relating to the automatic admission of undergraduate students to general academic teaching institutions.), **As Passed 2nd House**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would amend Section 51.803 of the Texas Education Code, relating to the current automatic admission of high school students graduating in the top ten percent of their class, by: 1) requiring top ten percent students to complete the recommended or advanced high school curriculum to be eligible for automatic admission to a Texas public university; 2) allowing universities to admit as little as 66.67 percent of the institution's freshman enrollment capacity to these students; and, 3) requiring institutions to offer automatic admission to students seeking to transfer from another institution who have completed the core curriculum and have maintained a cumulative grade point average of at least 3.25.

The bill would also direct the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to consult with the Texas Education Agency to adopt rules establishing standards applicable to students who attended a school that did not offer the recommended or advanced high school curriculum. Each general academic institution would have to submit a report to Higher Education Board and post on their website information about the demographic characteristics of the incoming freshman class.

The bill will not affect overall state enrollment in institutions of higher education and would not require significant changes to current enrollment processes. General academic institutions and the Higher Education Coordinating Board could absorb costs associated with passage of the bill within existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies:

LBB Staff: JOB, MN, RT, JMI