

By: Shapleigh

S.B. No. 195

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to student Internet access to certain financial and
3 academic information maintained by public institutions of higher
4 education.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 51, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 51.973 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 51.973. STUDENT INTERNET ACCESS TO FINANCIAL AND
9 ACADEMIC INFORMATION. In accordance with guidelines adopted by the
10 Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and to the extent the
11 institution is legally authorized to provide access to relevant
12 information, each institution of higher education shall provide a
13 method by which each student enrolled in the institution may
14 access, through the institution's Internet website:

15 (1) the student's current financial status, including:

16 (A) any amount of tuition or fees the student
17 owes;

18 (B) any institutional, state, federal, private,
19 or other grant, loan, or other financial aid available specifically
20 to the student through the institution's financial aid office,
21 including the applicable amounts of aid; and

22 (C) any amount of money the student owes on a
23 student financial aid loan the student received through the
24 institution's financial aid office; and

1 (2) the student's current academic status, including:

2 (A) a list of the courses in which the student is
3 currently enrolled;

4 (B) a list of the courses that the student has
5 completed at the institution or at another institution for which
6 the institution has granted or will grant the student course
7 credit, and the grade assigned for each course; and

8 (C) information concerning the required and
9 elective courses, including the number of semester credit hours,
10 that the student must complete for the student's degree plan.

11 SECTION 2. Not later than January 1, 2010, the Texas Higher
12 Education Coordinating Board shall adopt guidelines as required by
13 Section 51.973, Education Code, as added by this Act. Not later
14 than August 1, 2010, each public institution of higher education
15 shall provide a method by which the institution's students may
16 access financial and academic information as required by that
17 section.

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
19 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
20 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
21 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
22 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.