

By: Huffman

S.B. No. 176

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to student eligibility for tuition rebates offered by
general academic teaching institutions.

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

SECTION 1. Section 54.0065(a), Education Code, is amended
to read as follows:

(a) A qualified student is eligible for a rebate of a
portion of the undergraduate tuition the student has paid if the
student:

(1) is awarded a baccalaureate degree from a general
academic teaching institution within the period prescribed by
Section 56.462(1)(A) or (B), as applicable, to qualify for
forgiveness of a Texas B-On-time loan; and

(2) has attempted no more than three hours in excess of
the minimum number of semester credit hours required to complete
the degree program:

(A) including:

(i) transfer credits; and

(ii) course credit earned exclusively by
examination, except that, for purposes of this subsection, only the
number of semester credit hours earned exclusively by examination
in excess of nine semester credit hours is treated as hours
attempted; and

(B) excluding:

1 (i) course credit that is earned to satisfy
2 requirements for a Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program
3 but that is not required to complete the degree program; and

4 (ii) course credit, other than course
5 credit earned exclusively by examination, that is earned before
6 graduating from high school and used to satisfy high school
7 graduation requirements.

8 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
9 to a student who is awarded a baccalaureate degree from a general
10 academic teaching institution on or after the effective date of
11 this Act.

12 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.