

1-1 By: Huffman S.B. No. 176  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed November 8, 2010; January 31, 2011,  
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Higher Education;  
1-4 March 7, 2011, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 7,  
1-5 Nays 0; March 7, 2011, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to student eligibility for tuition rebates offered by  
1-9 general academic teaching institutions.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Subsection (a), Section 54.0065, Education Code,  
1-12 is amended to read as follows:

1-13 (a) A qualified student is eligible for a rebate of a  
1-14 portion of the undergraduate tuition the student has paid if the  
1-15 student:

1-16 (1) is awarded a baccalaureate degree from a general  
1-17 academic teaching institution within the period prescribed by  
1-18 Section 56.462(1)(A) or (B), as applicable, to qualify for  
1-19 forgiveness of a Texas B-On-time loan; and

1-20 (2) has attempted no more than three hours in excess of  
1-21 the minimum number of semester credit hours required to complete  
1-22 the degree program:

1-23 (A) including:

1-24 (i) transfer credits; and

1-25 (ii) course credit earned exclusively by  
1-26 examination, except that, for purposes of this subsection, only the  
1-27 number of semester credit hours earned exclusively by examination  
1-28 in excess of nine semester credit hours is treated as hours  
1-29 attempted; and

1-30 (B) excluding:

1-31 (i) course credit that is earned to satisfy  
1-32 requirements for a Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program  
1-33 but that is not required to complete the degree program; and

1-34 (ii) course credit, other than course  
1-35 credit earned exclusively by examination, that is earned before  
1-36 graduating from high school and used to satisfy high school  
1-37 graduation requirements.

1-38 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
1-39 to a student who is awarded a baccalaureate degree from a general  
1-40 academic teaching institution on or after the effective date of  
1-41 this Act.

1-42 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
1-43 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
1-44 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
1-45 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
1-46 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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