



10 MAY 14 2011
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. _____

BY: _____

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1 Amend C.S.S.B. No. 215 (house committee report) by adding the
2 following appropriately numbered SECTIONS to the bill and
3 renumbering subsequent SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

4 SECTION _____. Section 56.305(a), Education Code, is amended
5 to read as follows:

6 (a) After initially qualifying for a TEXAS grant, a person
7 may continue to receive a TEXAS grant during each semester or term
8 in which the person is enrolled at an eligible institution only if
9 the person:

10 (1) meets financial need requirements as defined by
11 the coordinating board;

12 (2) is enrolled in an undergraduate degree or
13 certificate program at an eligible institution;

14 (3) is enrolled for at least three-fourths of a full
15 course load for an undergraduate student, as determined by the
16 coordinating board;

17 (4) makes satisfactory academic progress toward an
18 undergraduate degree or certificate;

19 (5) if applicable under Section 56.3055, participates
20 in a student engagement program as required by that section; and

21 (6) [~~45~~] complies with any additional nonacademic
22 requirement adopted by the coordinating board.

23 SECTION _____. Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education Code, is
24 amended by adding Section 56.3055 to read as follows:

25 Sec. 56.3055. ADDITIONAL CONTINUING ELIGIBILITY
26 REQUIREMENT: STUDENT ENGAGEMENT PROGRAM. (a) Each person who
27 enrolls as an entering undergraduate student at a general academic
28 teaching institution and receives a TEXAS grant from that
29 institution must participate in a student engagement program

1 sponsored by the institution and selected for the person by the
2 institution. Subject to Subsection (e), the person must complete
3 the program during the person's first academic year at the
4 institution.

5 (b) Before each academic year begins, a general academic
6 teaching institution awarding TEXAS grants shall:

7 (1) develop one or more student engagement programs
8 designed to increase student persistence, retention, and
9 graduation rates; and

10 (2) determine the degree of program participation
11 necessary for a grant recipient to satisfy Subsection (a) and the
12 manner in which to document that participation.

13 (c) Not later than the seventh class day of the fall
14 semester, the institution shall communicate to each applicable
15 grant recipient information regarding the program or programs
16 developed by the institution under Subsection (b) and the manner in
17 which the recipient may satisfy the requirements of this section.

18 (d) A student engagement program may be operated through any
19 appropriate means, including:

20 (1) mentoring activity;

21 (2) a small group seminar or other learning community;

22 or

23 (3) an undergraduate research project.

24 (e) The coordinating board may adopt rules to administer
25 this section, including a rule to allow a person to receive a TEXAS
26 grant without participating in a student engagement program or
27 after delaying that participation if the person is able to show
28 hardship or other good cause that affects the person's ability to
29 satisfy the requirements of this section. For purposes of this
30 subsection, hardship or other good cause includes a severe illness
31 or other debilitating condition, responsibility for the care of a

1 sick, injured, or needy person, or active duty or other service in
2 the United States armed forces.

3 (f) In adopting rules under Subsection (e), the
4 coordinating board shall appoint and consult with an advisory
5 committee composed of institutional business officers, financial
6 aid administrators, recognized student engagement experts, student
7 engagement program administrators, and undergraduate students.

8 (g) This section does not apply to a person who first
9 receives a TEXAS grant for a semester or term before the 2014 fall
10 semester. This subsection expires December 31, 2019.

11 SECTION _____. The change in law made by this Act to
12 Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education Code, applies beginning with
13 grants awarded for the 2014-2015 academic year, but does not affect
14 the amount of or entitlement to any grant awarded before the
15 effective date of this Act.