

Suspending limitations on conference committee
jurisdiction, S.B. No. 1158 (Van de Putte/Menendez)

By: Menendez

H.R. No. 3056

R E S O L U T I O N

1 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the State of
2 Texas, 83rd Legislature, Regular Session, 2013, That House Rule 13,
3 Section 9(a), be suspended in part as provided by House Rule 13,
4 Section 9(f), to enable the conference committee appointed to
5 resolve the differences on Senate Bill 1158 (relating to higher
6 education for veterans and their families) to consider and take
7 action on the following matters:

8 (1) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit
9 the committee to add text on matters which are not included in
10 either the house or senate version of the bill in SECTION 1 of the
11 bill by amending Sections 54.341(d), (h), and (l), Education Code,
12 to read as follows:

13 (d) The governing board of each institution of higher
14 education granting an exemption under this section shall require
15 each applicant claiming the exemption to submit to the institution,
16 in the form and manner prescribed by the Texas Veterans Commission
17 for purposes of this section under Section 434.0079(b), Government
18 Code, an application for the exemption and necessary [satisfactory]
19 evidence that the applicant qualifies for the exemption not later
20 than the last class date of the semester or term to which the
21 exemption applies, except that the governing board may encourage
22 the submission of an application and evidence by the official day of
23 record for the semester or term to which the exemption applies on
24 which the institution must determine the enrollment that is

1 reported to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board [~~one year~~
2 ~~after the earlier of the date the institution:~~

3 [~~(1) provides written notice to the applicant of the~~
4 ~~applicant's eligibility for the exemption; or~~

5 [~~(2) receives a written acknowledgement from the~~
6 ~~applicant evidencing the applicant's awareness of the applicant's~~
7 ~~eligibility for the exemption].~~

8 (h) The governing board of each institution of higher
9 education shall electronically report to the Texas Veterans
10 Commission [~~Higher Education Coordinating Board~~] the information
11 required by Section 434.00791, Government Code, [~~61.0516~~] relating
12 to each individual receiving an exemption from fees and charges
13 under Subsection (a), (a-2), [~~or~~] (b), or (k). The institution
14 shall report the information not later than January 31 [~~December~~
15 ~~31~~] of each year for the fall semester, June 30 [~~May 31~~] of each year
16 for the spring semester, and September 30 of each year for the
17 summer session.

18 (1) To be eligible to receive an exemption under Subsection
19 (k), the child must:

20 (1) be a student who is classified as a resident under
21 Subchapter B when the child enrolls in an institution of higher
22 education; [~~and~~]

23 (2) as a graduate or undergraduate student, maintain a
24 grade point average that satisfies the grade point average
25 requirement for making [~~make~~] satisfactory academic progress in a
26 degree, certificate, or continuing education program as determined
27 by the institution at which the child is enrolled in accordance with

1 the institution's policy regarding eligibility for [~~of the~~
2 ~~institution's~~] financial aid; and

3 (3) be 25 years of age or younger on the first day of
4 the semester or other academic term for which the exemption is
5 claimed [~~department, except that the institution may not require~~
6 ~~the child to enroll in a minimum course load~~].

7 Explanation: These changes are necessary to clarify the
8 reporting and eligibility requirements for certain tuition
9 exemptions awarded to veterans and their families.

10 (2) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit
11 the committee to add text on a matter which is not included in
12 either the house or senate version of the bill in SECTION 2 of the
13 bill by adding Section 54.3411(e), Education Code, to read as
14 follows:

15 (e) The amount available for distribution from the fund may
16 be appropriated only to offset the cost to institutions of higher
17 education of the exemptions required by Section 54.341(k). The
18 amount appropriated shall be distributed to eligible institutions
19 in proportion to each institution's respective share of the
20 aggregate cost to all institutions of the exemptions required by
21 Section 54.341(k), as determined by the Legislative Budget Board.
22 The amount appropriated shall be distributed annually to each
23 eligible institution of higher education.

24 Explanation: This change is necessary to clarify the
25 distribution of funds for certain tuition exemptions awarded to
26 children of certain veterans.

27 (3) House Rule 13, Section 9(a)(4), is suspended to permit

1 the committee to add text on a matter which is not included in
2 either the house or senate version of the bill in SECTION 3 of the
3 bill by adding Section 434.0079(c), Government Code, to read as
4 follows:

5 (c) The commission shall adopt rules governing the
6 coordination of federal and state benefits of a person eligible to
7 receive an exemption under Section 54.341(k), Education Code,
8 including rules governing:

9 (1) the total number of credit hours assigned under
10 that section that a person may apply to an individual degree or
11 certificate program, consistent with the standards of the
12 appropriate recognized regional accrediting agency; and

13 (2) the application of the assigned exemption to
14 credit hours for which the institution of higher education does not
15 receive state funding.

16 Explanation: This change is necessary to require rules to be
17 adopted for the administration of certain tuition exemptions
18 awarded to veterans and their families.