

By: Seliger, et al.
(Branch)

S.B. No. 1531

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to providing information to entering undergraduate students at certain general academic teaching institutions to promote timely graduation.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 51, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 51.9195 to read as follows:

Sec. 51.9195. INFORMATION FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDENTS REGARDING BENEFITS OF TIMELY GRADUATION. (a) In this section, "general academic teaching institution" and "public state college" have the meanings assigned by Section 61.003.

(b) This section applies only to a general academic teaching institution other than a public state college.

(c) An institution to which this section applies shall provide to each first-time entering undergraduate student, including each undergraduate student who transfers to the institution, information in electronic or paper format that includes, based on a reasonable projection by the institution using the most recently available data:

(1) a comparison of the average total amounts of tuition and fees paid by a full-time student who graduates from the institution in the following number of academic years:

(A) four years;

(B) five years; and

1 (C) six years; and

2 (2) an estimate of the average earnings lost by a
3 recent graduate of the institution as a result of graduating after
4 five or six years instead of four years.

5 (d) An institution to which this section applies shall
6 include with the information provided to a student under Subsection
7 (c):

8 (1) a list of actions that the student can take to
9 facilitate graduating from the institution in a timely manner; and

10 (2) contact information for available academic,
11 career, and other related support services at the institution to
12 assist the student in that effort.

13 (e) An institution to which this section applies may satisfy
14 the requirements of Subsections (c)(1) and (2) with regard to a
15 student by providing the student with information that is more
16 specific than the information described by those subdivisions.

17 SECTION 2. Section 51.9195, Education Code, as added by
18 this Act, applies beginning with undergraduate students who
19 initially enroll in a general academic teaching institution for the
20 2014 fall semester.

21 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.