

AN ACT

relating to eliminating requirements that certain public institutions of higher education set aside portions of tuition for student loan repayment programs for certain physicians and state attorneys.

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

SECTION 1. Section 61.5391(a), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The physician education loan repayment program account is an account in the general revenue fund. The account is composed of:

- (1) gifts and grants contributed to the account;
- (2) earnings on the principal of the account; and
- (3) other amounts deposited to the credit of the account, including:

(A) money deposited under Section ~~61.539(b) or~~ 61.5392;

(B) legislative appropriations; and

(C) money deposited under Section 155.2415, Tax Code.

SECTION 2. Sections 61.9730 and 61.9732, Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 61.9730. TOTAL AMOUNT OF REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE. The total amount of repayment assistance distributed by the board under

1 this subchapter may not exceed the total amount available for the
2 program under Section 61.9732 [~~of gifts, grants, and donations~~
3 ~~accepted by the board for repayment assistance and tuition set~~
4 ~~aside under Section 61.9731~~].

5 Sec. 61.9732. LIMITATIONS ON FUNDING. The loan repayment
6 program under this subchapter may be funded only from:

7 (1) gifts, grants, and donations accepted by the
8 board; [~~and~~]

9 (2) legislative appropriations for the program; and

10 (3) money budgeted for the program by the office of the
11 attorney general from appropriations made to that office [~~tuition~~
12 ~~set aside under Section 61.9731~~].

13 SECTION 3. The following provisions of the Education Code
14 are repealed:

15 (1) Section 61.539; and

16 (2) Section 61.9731.

17 SECTION 4. (a) The change in law made by this Act applies
18 beginning with tuition charged for the 2015 fall semester.

19 (b) Tuition charged for any semester or other academic term
20 before the 2015 fall semester is covered by the applicable law as it
21 existed before the effective date of this Act, and the former law is
22 continued in effect for that purpose.

23 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
24 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
25 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
26 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
27 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2396 was passed by the House on May 6, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 145, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2396 was passed by the Senate on May 22, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor