

By: Raney, Shine, Miller, Roberts, Guillen,  
et al.

H.B. No. 846

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the implementation of student financial assistance  
programs for veterans and their families.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 56, Education Code, is  
amended by adding Section 56.0065 to read as follows:

Sec. 56.0065. STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR  
VETERANS AND FAMILIES; EQUAL PROTECTION. (a) An institution of  
higher education may not impose additional fees, obligations, or  
burdens concerning payment or registration on a student eligible  
for state or federal military related student financial assistance  
programs for military veterans or their family members that are not  
otherwise required by those programs to be imposed for the purpose  
of receiving that assistance.

(b) An institution of higher education must provide for a  
student described by Subsection (a) to defer payment of tuition and  
fees if the receipt of military related financial assistance  
awarded to the student is delayed. The Texas Veterans Commission,  
in cooperation with institutions of higher education, shall  
prescribe a standard deferment request form for the purposes of  
this subsection.

(c) This section does not prohibit an institution of higher  
education from requiring a student described by Subsection (a) to  
submit a free application for federal student aid (FAFSA).

1           SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply  
2 beginning with the 2017-2018 academic year.

3           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.