

1-1 By: Raney, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Menéndez) H.B. No. 846  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 18, 2017;  
 1-3 April 19, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on  
 1-4 Veteran Affairs & Border Security; May 17, 2017, reported  
 1-5 adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the following  
 1-6 vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 17, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14			X	
1-15	X			

1-16 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 846 By: Lucio

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the implementation of student financial assistance  
 1-20 programs for veterans and their families.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 56, Education Code, is  
 1-23 amended by adding Section 56.0065 to read as follows:

1-24 Sec. 56.0065. STUDENT FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FOR  
 1-25 VETERANS AND FAMILIES; EQUAL PROTECTION. (a) In this section,  
 1-26 "private or independent institution of higher education" has the  
 1-27 meaning assigned by Section 61.003.

1-28 (b) An institution of higher education or a private or  
 1-29 independent institution of higher education may not impose  
 1-30 additional fees, obligations, or burdens concerning payment or  
 1-31 registration on a student eligible for state or federal military  
 1-32 related student financial assistance programs for military  
 1-33 veterans or their family members that are not otherwise required by  
 1-34 those programs to be imposed for the purpose of receiving that  
 1-35 assistance.

1-36 (c) An institution of higher education or a private or  
 1-37 independent institution of higher education must provide for a  
 1-38 student described by Subsection (b) to defer payment of tuition and  
 1-39 fees if the receipt of military related financial assistance  
 1-40 awarded to the student is delayed by less than 60 days. The Texas  
 1-41 Veterans Commission, in cooperation with institutions of higher  
 1-42 education and private or independent institutions of higher  
 1-43 education, shall prescribe a standard deferment request form for  
 1-44 the purposes of this subsection.

1-45 (d) This section does not prohibit an institution of higher  
 1-46 education or a private or independent institution of higher  
 1-47 education from requiring a student described by Subsection (b) to  
 1-48 submit a free application for federal student aid (FAFSA).

1-49 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply  
 1-50 beginning with the 2017-2018 academic year.

1-51 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

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