

1-1 By: Wray (Senate Sponsor - Zaffirini) H.B. No. 1117  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 24, 2017;  
1-3 May 1, 2017, read first time and referred to Committee on Veteran  
1-4 Affairs & Border Security; May 11, 2017, reported favorably by the  
1-5 following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 11, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10			X	
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to eligibility for the Texas Armed Services Scholarship  
1-18 Program.

1-19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-20 SECTION 1. Section 61.9772(a), Education Code, is amended  
1-21 to read as follows:

1-22 (a) To receive an initial scholarship under this  
1-23 subchapter, a student must:

1-24 (1) be enrolled in a public or private institution of  
1-25 higher education in this state;

1-26 (2) enroll in and be a member in good standing of a  
1-27 Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program or another  
1-28 undergraduate officer commissioning program such as the United  
1-29 States Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Class while enrolled in a  
1-30 public or private institution of higher education in this state;

1-31 (3) be appointed to receive a scholarship by the  
1-32 governor, the lieutenant governor, a state senator, or a state  
1-33 representative; and

1-34 (4) enter into an agreement with the board under  
1-35 Section 61.9773.

1-36 SECTION 2. Section 61.9773(a), Education Code, is amended  
1-37 to read as follows:

1-38 (a) To receive a scholarship under this subchapter, a  
1-39 student must enter into an agreement with the board as provided by  
1-40 this section. The agreement must require the student to:

1-41 (1) complete four years of ROTC training or complete  
1-42 another undergraduate officer commissioning program such as the  
1-43 United States Marine Corps Platoon Leaders Class;

1-44 (2) graduate not later than six years after the date  
1-45 the student first enrolls in a public or private institution of  
1-46 higher education in this state;

1-47 (3) after graduation, enter into:

1-48 (A) a four-year commitment to be a member of the  
1-49 Texas Army National Guard, Texas Air National Guard, Texas State  
1-50 Guard, United States Coast Guard, or United States Merchant Marine;  
1-51 or

1-52 (B) a contract to serve as a commissioned officer  
1-53 in any branch of the armed services of the United States;

1-54 (4) meet the physical examination requirements and all  
1-55 other prescreening requirements of the Texas Army National Guard,  
1-56 Texas Air National Guard, Texas State Guard, United States Coast  
1-57 Guard, or United States Merchant Marine or the branch of the armed  
1-58 services with which the student enters into a contract; and

1-59 (5) agree to repay the scholarship if the student:

1-60 (A) fails to maintain satisfactory academic  
1-61 progress;

2-1 (B) withdraws from the scholarship program; or  
2-2 (C) fails to fulfill a commitment or contract  
2-3 described by Subdivision (3).

2-4 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply  
2-5 beginning with a Texas Armed Services Scholarship awarded for the  
2-6 2017-2018 academic year. A Texas Armed Services Scholarship  
2-7 awarded for an academic year before that academic year is covered by  
2-8 the law in effect when the scholarship was awarded, and that law is  
2-9 continued in effect for that purpose.

2-10 SECTION 4. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
2-11 shall adopt rules for the administration of Sections [61.9772](#) and  
2-12 [61.9773](#), Education Code, as amended by this Act, as soon as  
2-13 practicable after this Act takes effect.

2-14 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2-15 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2-16 provided by Section [39](#), Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-17 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-18 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

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