By:  Zaffirini, Hinojosa S.B. No. 1504

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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the abolition of the B-On-time student loan account and the allocation of funds remaining in that account.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 56.0092, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (d) and (f) and adding Subsection (e-1) to read as follows:

(d)  On September 1, 2021 [~~2020~~], the Texas B-On-time student loan account is abolished, and any remaining money in the account, notwithstanding Subsection (b), may be appropriated only to eligible institutions in the manner provided by Subsection (e).

(e-1)  An eligible institution that receives an appropriation of money under Subsection (d) may use the money only to support efforts to increase the number of at-risk students who graduate from the institution or the rate at which at-risk students graduate from the institution.

(f)  In this section:

(1)  "At-risk student" means an undergraduate student of an eligible institution:

(A)  who has previously received a grant under the federal Pell Grant program or met the Expected Family Contribution (EFC) criterion for a grant under that program; or

(B)  whose total score on the SAT or the ACT, excluding the optional essay test, is less than the national mean of students' scores on the applicable test.

(2)  "Eligible[~~, "eligible~~] institution" means a general academic teaching institution described by Section 56.451(2)(A) or a medical and dental unit described by Section 56.451(2)(B), as those paragraphs existed immediately before September 1, 2015.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2019.