

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 34

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the maximum number of semester credit hours allowed for  
and funding sources used to supplement a TEXAS grant.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education Code, is  
amended by adding Section 56.3051 to read as follows:

Sec. 56.3051. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS. A  
person may not receive a TEXAS grant for more than the lesser of:

(1) 135 semester credit hours or the equivalent; or

(2) 15 semester credit hours, or the equivalent, in  
addition to the number of credit hours needed to complete the  
student's degree program.

SECTION 2. Section 56.307(j), Education Code, is amended to  
read as follows:

(j) A public institution of higher education shall use other  
available sources of financial aid, other than a loan or work study,  
to cover any difference in the amount of a TEXAS grant awarded to  
the student and the actual amount of tuition and required fees at  
the institution if the difference results from:

(1) a reduction in the amount of a TEXAS grant under  
Subsection (i-1); or

(2) a deficiency in the amount of the grant as  
established under Subsection (a) or (e), as applicable, to cover  
the full amount of tuition and required fees charged to the student

1 by the institution.

2 SECTION 3. Section 56.304(d), Education Code, is repealed.

3 SECTION 4. The changes in law made by this Act apply  
4 beginning with initial or subsequent TEXAS grants awarded for the  
5 2019 fall semester. Initial or subsequent TEXAS grants awarded for  
6 a semester or term before the 2019 fall semester are governed by the  
7 applicable law in effect immediately before the effective date of  
8 this Act, and the former law is continued in effect for that  
9 purpose.

10 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.