

By: Jones of Harris

H.B. No. 2631

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the withdrawal or revocation of an athletic scholarship
3 by a public institution of higher education on the basis of a
4 student athlete's injury, illness, or disability.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 56, Education Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 56.0093 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 56.0093. WITHDRAWAL OR REVOCATION OF CERTAIN ATHLETIC
9 SCHOLARSHIPS. (a) In this section, "athletic scholarship" means a
10 scholarship, grant, or similar financial assistance awarded to a
11 student for a period of at least one academic year that is
12 conditioned on the student's participation in intercollegiate
13 athletics.

14 (b) Subject to Subsection (c), an institution of higher
15 education may not withdraw or revoke the athletic scholarship of a
16 student athlete on the basis that the student athlete suffered an
17 injury, illness, or disability, including a mental illness or
18 disability, that renders the student athlete unable to participate
19 in intercollegiate athletics, regardless of whether the injury,
20 illness, or disability is temporary or permanent or resulted from
21 the student athlete's participation in an athletic program at the
22 institution.

23 (c) An institution of higher education may withdraw or
24 revoke the athletic scholarship of a student athlete who suffers an

1 injury, illness, or disability described by Subsection (b) if the
2 student athlete's injury, illness, or disability resulted from the
3 student athlete's violation of the institution's student code of
4 conduct.

5 (d) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall
6 adopt rules as necessary to implement and enforce this section.

7 SECTION 2. Section 56.0093, Education Code, as added by
8 this Act, applies beginning with athletic scholarships, grants, or
9 similar financial assistance initially awarded to student athletes
10 for the 2023-2024 academic year.

11 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
12 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
13 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
14 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
15 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.