

1-1 By: Eckhardt, Campbell S.B. No. 371
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed January 9, 2023; February 15, 2023,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Veteran Affairs;
1-4 March 23, 2023, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; March 23, 2023,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	Hancock	X		
1-10	Parker	X		
1-11	Blanco	X		
1-12	Eckhardt	X		
1-13	Gutierrez	X		
1-14	Hall	X		
1-15	Sparks	X		

1-16 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 371 By: Parker

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

1-19 relating to the Texas Armed Services Scholarship Program.
1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
1-21 SECTION 1. Section [61.9773\(a\)](#), Education Code, is amended
1-22 to read as follows:
1-23 (a) To receive a scholarship under this subchapter, a
1-24 student must enter into an agreement with the board as provided by
1-25 this section. The agreement must require the student to:
1-26 (1) complete:
1-27 (A) one year [~~four years~~] of ROTC training for
1-28 each year that the student receives the scholarship; or
1-29 (B) [~~complete~~] another undergraduate officer
1-30 commissioning program such as the United States Marine Corps
1-31 Platoon Leaders Class;
1-32 (2) graduate not later than six years after the date
1-33 the student first enrolls in a public or private institution of
1-34 higher education in this state;
1-35 (3) after graduation, enter into:
1-36 (A) a four-year commitment to be a member of the
1-37 Texas Army National Guard, Texas Air National Guard, Texas State
1-38 Guard, United States Coast Guard, or United States Merchant Marine;
1-39 or
1-40 (B) a contract to serve as a commissioned officer
1-41 in any branch of the armed services of the United States;
1-42 (4) meet the physical examination requirements and all
1-43 other prescreening requirements of the Texas Army National Guard,
1-44 Texas Air National Guard, Texas State Guard, United States Coast
1-45 Guard, or United States Merchant Marine or the branch of the armed
1-46 services with which the student enters into a contract; and
1-47 (5) agree to repay the scholarship if the student:
1-48 (A) fails to maintain satisfactory academic
1-49 progress;
1-50 (B) withdraws from the scholarship program; or
1-51 (C) fails to fulfill a commitment or contract
1-52 described by Subdivision (3).
1-53 SECTION 2. Subchapter [FF](#), Chapter [61](#), Education Code, is
1-54 amended by adding Section [61.97731](#) to read as follows:
1-55 Sec. 61.97731. NOTICE REGARDING MINIMUM AND REQUIRED ROTC
1-56 TRAINING. The board shall post on the board's Internet website and
1-57 provide to each student before the student enters into an agreement
1-58 with the board under Section [61.9773](#) information regarding the
1-59 number of years of ROTC training that each entity described by
1-60 Section [61.9773\(a\)\(3\)](#) requires or recommends before entering into a

2-1 commitment or contract described by that subdivision.

2-2 SECTION 3. Section [61.9773](#)(a), Education Code, as amended
2-3 by this Act, applies beginning with a Texas Armed Services
2-4 Scholarship awarded for the 2024-2025 academic year. A Texas Armed
2-5 Services Scholarship awarded for an academic year before that
2-6 academic year is governed by the law in effect when the scholarship
2-7 was awarded, and the former law is continued in effect for that
2-8 purpose.

2-9 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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