

By: West, Blanco, Paxton

S.B. No. 2055

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to participation in the Texas Leadership Scholars Program.

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

SECTION 1. Section 61.891, Education Code, is amended by adding Subdivision (4) to read as follows:

(4) "Eligible institution" means a general academic teaching institution as defined by Section 61.003.

SECTION 2. Section 61.897, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) The board, in consultation with general academic teaching institutions, shall adopt rules for the administration of the program, including rules providing for the amount and permissible uses of a scholarship awarded under the program. The rules must provide that:

(1) the amount of a research scholarship is at least 150 percent of the amount of a leadership scholarship; ~~and~~

(2) a student may not receive a scholarship under either the leadership or research scholarship program for more than four years per student per program; and

(3) each eligible institution receives at least one research scholarship award with remaining research scholarships awarded to eligible institutions based, in part, on the number of research doctoral degrees awarded by each institution.

1 (a-1) In adopting rules under this subchapter, the board may
2 not adopt a rule that:

3 (1) limits the general academic teaching institutions
4 that may participate in the program; or

5 (2) gives preference to students enrolled in certain
6 general academic teaching institutions.

7 SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date
8 of this Act, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall
9 adopt rules to implement Section 61.897, Education Code, as
10 amended by this Act.

11 SECTION 4. 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, 2025.