

1-1 By: Seliger S.B. No. 885  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 14, 2017; February 28, 2017,  
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Higher Education;  
1-4 May 1, 2017, reported adversely, with favorable Committee  
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 1, 2017,  
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7	COMMITTEE VOTE			
1-8		Yea	Nay	Absent
1-9	Seliger	X		PNV
1-10	West	X		
1-11	Bettencourt	X		
1-12	Buckingham	X		
1-13	Menéndez	X		
1-14	Taylor of Galveston	X		
1-15	Watson	X		

1-16 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 885 By: Seliger

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

1-19 relating to the maximum number of semester credit hours allowed for  
1-20 and funding sources used to supplement a TEXAS grant and to the  
1-21 removal of obsolete references related to the Teach for Texas grant  
1-22 program.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Subchapter M, Chapter 56, Education Code, is  
1-25 amended by adding Section 56.3051 to read as follows:

1-26 Sec. 56.3051. MAXIMUM NUMBER OF SEMESTER CREDIT HOURS. A  
1-27 person may not receive a TEXAS grant for more than the lesser of:

1-28 (1) 135 semester credit hours or the equivalent; or

1-29 (2) 15 semester credit hours, or the equivalent, in  
1-30 addition to the number of credit hours needed to complete the  
1-31 student's degree program.

1-32 SECTION 2. Section 56.307, Education Code, is amended by  
1-33 amending Subsection (j) to read as follows:

1-34 (j) A public institution of higher education shall use other  
1-35 available sources of financial aid, other than a loan or work study,  
1-36 to cover any difference in the amount of a TEXAS grant awarded to  
1-37 the student and the actual amount of tuition and required fees at  
1-38 the institution if the difference results from:

1-39 (1) a reduction in the amount of a TEXAS grant under  
1-40 Subsection (i-1); or

1-41 (2) a deficiency in the amount of the grant as  
1-42 established under Subsection (a) or (e), as applicable, to cover  
1-43 the full amount of tuition and required fees charged to the student  
1-44 by the institution.

1-45 SECTION 3. Section 56.308(b), Education Code, is amended to  
1-46 read as follows:

1-47 (b) Each school district shall:

1-48 (1) notify its middle school students, junior high  
1-49 school students, and high school students, those students' teachers  
1-50 and school counselors, and those students' parents of the TEXAS  
1-51 grant program ~~[and Teach for Texas grant programs]~~, the eligibility  
1-52 requirements of the ~~[each]~~ program, the need for students to make  
1-53 informed curriculum choices to be prepared for success beyond high  
1-54 school, and sources of information on higher education admissions  
1-55 and financial aid in a manner that assists the district in  
1-56 implementing a strategy adopted by the district under Section  
1-57 11.252(a)(4); and

1-58 (2) ensure that each student's official transcript or  
1-59 diploma indicates whether the student has completed or is on  
1-60 schedule to complete:

(A) the recommended or advanced high school curriculum required for grant eligibility under Section 28.002 or 28.025; or

(B) for a school district covered by Section 56.304(f)(1), the required portion of the recommended or advanced high school curriculum in the manner described by Section 56.304(f)(2).

SECTION 4. Sections 56.311(a), (b), (c), (c-1), (e), and (g), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The Legislative Oversight Committee on the TEXAS grant program ~~[and Teach for Texas grant program]~~ is composed of six members as follows:

(1) three members of the senate appointed by the lieutenant governor; and

(2) three members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(b) The committee shall:

(1) meet at least twice a year with the coordinating board; and

(2) receive information regarding rules relating to the TEXAS grant program ~~[and Teach for Texas grant program]~~ that have been adopted by the coordinating board or proposed for adoption by the coordinating board.

(c) The committee may request reports and other information from the coordinating board relating to the operation of the TEXAS grant program ~~[and Teach for Texas grant program]~~ by the coordinating board.

(c-1) ~~The [Not later than September 1 of each year, the] coordinating board shall include in its annual report to the legislature on financial aid in this state [provide] a report to the committee regarding the operation of the TEXAS grant program, including information from the three preceding state fiscal years as follows:~~

(1) allocations of TEXAS grants by eligible institution, disaggregated by initial and subsequent awards;

(2) the number of TEXAS grants awarded to students disaggregated by race, ethnicity, and expected family contribution;

(3) disaggregated as required by Subdivision (2) and reported both on a statewide basis and for each eligible institution, the number of TEXAS grants awarded to students who meet:

(A) only the eligibility criteria described by Section 56.304; or

(B) the eligibility criteria described by Section 56.304(2)(A); and

(4) the persistence, retention, and graduation rates of students receiving TEXAS grants.

(e) The committee shall monitor the operation of the TEXAS grant program ~~[and Teach for Texas grant program]~~, with emphasis on the manner of the award of grants, the number of grants awarded, and the educational progress made by persons who have received grants under the program ~~[those programs]~~.

(g) The report shall include identification of any problems in the TEXAS grant program ~~[and Teach for Texas grant program]~~ with recommended solutions for the coordinating board and for legislative action.

SECTION 5. Section 56.304(d), Education Code, is repealed.

SECTION 6. The changes in law made by this Act apply beginning with initial or subsequent TEXAS grants awarded for the 2018 fall semester. Initial or subsequent TEXAS grants awarded for a semester or term before the 2018 fall semester are governed by the applicable law in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 7. 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

3-1 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

3-2 \* \* \* \* \*