

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R271 JSA-D

S.B. 315
By: Ellis
Higher Education
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As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, Texas law does not allow the Texas Prepaid Higher Education Tuition Board (board) to offer fifth year Texas Tomorrow Fund contracts for private colleges. This bill would allow the board to offer Texas Tomorrow Fund contracts for private colleges.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 315 authorizes certain prepaid tuition contracts to cover tuition for an additional period of attendance at an institution of higher education.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 54.6252(a), Education Code, to authorize the Texas Prepaid Higher Education Tuition Board (board) to permit the purchaser of a prepaid tuition contract for a senior college plan or a private college plan, at any time during which the contract is in effect and before the beneficiary graduates from high school, to make a supplemental payment to prepay certain fees and tuition.

SECTION 2. (a) Provides that the amendment made by this act does not apply to a prepaid tuition contract entered into before the effective date of the Act, except as provided by Subsection (b) of this SECTION.

(b) Authorizes the board to permit the purchaser of a prepaid tuition contract entered into before the effective date of this Act to amend the contract to conform to Section 54.6252, Education Code, and may require the purchaser to increase or make additional payments necessary to compensate for additional costs.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

SECTION 4. Emergency clause.