

By: Alonzo

H.B. No. 2917

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a scholarship program to support study abroad by students enrolled at public institutions of higher education.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 56, Education Code, is amended by adding Subchapter Z to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER Z. MISCELLANEOUS FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

Sec. 56.951. STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM. (a) In this section, "coordinating board" means the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

(b) The coordinating board shall administer a program to provide scholarships to support study abroad by eligible students enrolled in a certificate or degree program at an institution of higher education. The coordinating board shall adopt any rules necessary to implement the program, including rules regarding student eligibility for a scholarship under the program.

(c) A student may not receive scholarships under the program for a period of more than two years or for a total amount greater than \$10,000.

(d) A scholarship may be awarded only to support study abroad that directly relates to or provides course credit toward the student's certificate or degree program, as determined by the coordinating board.

1 (e) The coordinating board may fund the program from
2 available appropriations and from gifts, grants, and donations, and
3 may solicit and accept gifts, grants, and donations for that
4 purpose.

5 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
6 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
7 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
8 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
9 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.