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The original instrument and the following digest, which constitutes no part of the legislative instrument, were prepared by Cheryl Serrett.

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SB 394 Engrossed DIGEST 2018 Regular Session White

Present law provides for the Taylor Opportunity Program for Students.

Proposed law retains present law. Proposed law additionally provides for a new award called the TOPS-Tech 2Plus2 Award.

Proposed law provides that a recipient of a TOPS-Tech 2Plus2 Award must meet all requirements for the TOPS-Tech award and also meet the following criteria:

- (1) Graduated from high school during or after the 2021-2022 school year.
- (2) Accepted his TOPS-Tech Award.
- (3) Earned an academic associate's degree in an eligible TOPS-Tech program within two academic years of accepting the award and enrolling in an eligible institution.
- (4) Maintained a cumulative grade point average of 3.20 each academic year.
- (5) Enrolled in a baccalaureate program at a TOPS eligible four-year institution, not later than the semester, excluding summer semesters and sessions, immediately following the first anniversary of the date the student graduated from the eligible academic associate's degree program.

Proposed law provides that to maintain eligibility for the award, a student must:

- (1) Make steady academic progress toward a degree as defined by the administering agency.
- (2) Maintain a cumulative grade point average 2.50 on a 4.0 scale.
- (3) Maintain continuous enrollment.
- (4) Have no criminal conviction, except for misdemeanor traffic violations.
- (5) Have received an honorable discharge or general discharge under honorable conditions if the student had been in the United States Armed Forces and separated from such service.

Effective upon signature of the governor or lapse of time for gubernatorial action.

(Amends R.S. 17:5002(E)(2), 5024(B)(1)(d), and 5026(A)(intro para); adds R.S. 17:5002(H),

5024(A)(1)(e), 5026.1, and 5042.1)