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Gov. Perry Vetoes HB 518

June 19, 2009

TO ALL TO WHOM THESE PRESENTS SHALL COME:

Pursuant to Article IV, Section 14 of the Texas Constitution, I, Rick Perry, Governor of Texas, do hereby disapprove of and veto House Bill No. 518 of the 81st Texas Legislature, Regular Session, due to the following objections:

House Bill No. 518 would provide student loan repayment assistance for certain correctional officers, speech-language pathologists, audiologists, and math and science teachers.

The state currently funds 18 financial aid programs, four of which are major programs and the other 14 of which target smaller groups of students. Rather than creating new programs, the state should focus on fully funding the four main programs to make financial aid available to more students. The 2010–2011 state budget includes significant increases in funding for these key financial aid programs, which will provide assistance to more students than ever before. It is also more cost effective for the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and the institutions of higher education to administer a few large programs rather than many small programs.

Additionally, the state already provides loan repayment assistance for math and science teachers through the Teach for Texas Loan Repayment Assistance Program, so another program for math and science teachers is duplicative.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have signed my name officially and caused the Seal of the State to be affixed hereto at Austin, this the 19th day of June, 2009.

RICK PERRY

Governor of Texas

ATTESTED BY:

COBY SHORTER, III

Deputy Secretary of State

For a detailed view of this bill, visit <http://www.legis.state.tx.us/BillLookup/History.aspx?LegSess=81R&Bill=HB518>.