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Contact: [Jackie.King@senate.texas.gov](mailto:Jackie.King@senate.texas.gov); (512) 940-5785 cell

**Senator Larry Taylor Selects Karlie Smelser  
To Receive Texas Armed Services Scholarship  
*Clear Falls High School Graduate  
To Attend Stephen F. Austin State University***

FRIENDSWOOD, TEXAS (August 24, 2016) . . . State Senator Larry Taylor (R – Friendswood) has announced the selection of Karlie Smelser to receive a Texas Armed Services Scholarship for the 2016-2017 college academic year. The League City resident is a graduate of Clear Falls High School and will be attending Stephen F. Austin State University in Nacogdoches and joining the Army National Guard ROTC program this fall.

In 2009, the Texas Legislature created the Texas Armed Services Scholarship Program in an effort to encourage students to participate in Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) programs at civilian colleges. The Governor, Lt. Governor and each member of the Texas Legislature nominate a single applicant to receive a scholarship for the 2016-2017 academic year.

Senator Taylor said, "Karlie Smelser epitomizes the academic and athletic talent of our high school students and I'm proud to select her as this year's scholarship recipient. Her scholastic ranking and test scores were exceptional and she represents the ideal candidate for the program."

In addition to the eligibility criteria, a student must enter into an agreement requiring a four-year commitment as a member of the Texas Army National Guard, Texas Air National Guard, Texas State Guard, U.S. Coast Guard, U.S. Merchant Marine or a commissioned officer in any branch of the armed services of the United States. A maximum of 185 students statewide may be appointed annually and recipients may receive up to \$10,000 for the academic year. Dependent on funding available, students may receive up to four years of scholarship awards. For more information on the program and eligibility criteria, visit [www.texasarmedservicescholarships.com](http://www.texasarmedservicescholarships.com).

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