



**TEXAS
HIGHER EDUCATION
COORDINATING BOARD**

**SUMMARY OF
HIGHER EDUCATION
LEGISLATION**

80TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE

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July 2007

*This report is available at:
www.thecb.state.tx.us/about*

TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD

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MISSION

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's mission is to work with the Legislature, Governor, governing boards, higher education institutions and other entities to help Texas meet the goals of the state's higher education plan, *Closing the Gaps by 2015*, and thereby provide the people of Texas the widest access to higher education of the highest quality in the most efficient manner.

PHILOSOPHY

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board will promote access to quality higher education across the state with the conviction that access without quality is mediocrity and that quality without access is unacceptable. The Board will be open, ethical, responsive, and committed to public service. The Board will approach its work with a sense of purpose and responsibility to the people of Texas and is committed to the best use of public monies. The Coordinating Board will engage in actions that add value to Texas and to higher education; the agency will avoid efforts that do not add value or are duplicated by other entities.

The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, gender, religion, age or disability in employment or the provision of services.

**SUMMARY OF
HIGHER EDUCATION LEGISLATION**

80TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE

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SUMMARY OF HIGHER EDUCATION LEGISLATION

80TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCTION

As the 80th Texas Legislature gaveled open in January 2007, there was a strong consensus that higher education would be a primary focus of legislative activity. Leading into the session, the House Higher Education Committee and the Senate Subcommittee on Higher Education had extensively reviewed and considered a number of recommendations for the 80th Texas Legislature on higher education policy. The committees' interim reports focused on such issues as financial aid, tuition deregulation, automatic admissions (Top 10 percent law), and strategic planning. The work of the committees during the interim laid the foundation for much of the legislation deliberated on and approved during the regular session.

As in previous sessions, the goals of *Closing the Gaps by 2015* were a driving force during the 80th Texas Legislature, including the ongoing challenge of fully funding major initiatives recommended by the plan. Unlike past sessions, however, the State of Texas enjoyed a budget surplus estimated as high as \$15 billion as legislators began their work. A significant portion of the surplus was dedicated to property tax relief and a lawsuit settlement related to health care spending (*Frew v. Hawkins*). In the end, however, the Legislature increased all funds appropriations to higher education by \$2.6 billion overall from the 2006-07 biennium, to \$21.18 billion for 2008-09. This included significant investments in the areas of basic research, health-related programs, and financial aid.

This session, the Legislature made real investments in efforts designed to increase access to higher education, encourage research on campuses, and target key degree programs to encourage graduates in urgently needed fields. The state's five financial aid programs increased by \$162.3 million in appropriations from the last biennium, to include an additional \$96.2 million for TEXAS Grant and a two-fold increase in general revenue for the B-On-Time student loan program. Additionally, the Legislature allocated \$8.3 million for the Advanced Research Program, effectively doubling current available funding for basic research at public institutions of higher education. The Joint Admissions Medical Program and the Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program, two critical health-related higher education programs, also realized a 70 percent and 145 percent increase over last biennium, respectively. Finally, \$2 million was appropriated to new engineering recruitment programs and scholarships.

Aside from major strides in funding, the Legislature addressed a number of policy related issues. While amendments to the Top 10% law and tuition deregulation did not clear the Legislature, many changes impacting statewide education policy and individual institutions did become law. This legislation included creating a commission to study long-range higher education planning, instituting the recommended high school program as a prerequisite for admissions to general academic teaching institutions, and authorizing the Coordinating Board to develop a standardized high school grade point average calculation for higher education purposes.

This report contains a synopsis of major legislation related to higher education, including the General Appropriations Act. It also includes changes to administrative laws affecting institutional and/or Coordinating Board operations. The legislation is organized by topic with cross-reference tables by bill number, bill author, and bill sponsor at the end of the report.

**SUMMARY OF
GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT
RELATED TO HIGHER EDUCATION
80TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE**

**2008-09 BIENNIUM
As of July 1, 2007**

This summary incorporates all funds appropriated via Article III and Article IX of the General Appropriations Act (HB 1), funds appropriated via the Supplemental Appropriations Act (HB 15), and all gubernatorial vetoes impacting the Coordinating Board and programs it administers. This summary highlights significant changes in the Coordinating Board bill pattern, to include new and amended riders. To review the complete Higher Education budget as approved by the Conference Committee, visit http://www.lbb.state.tx.us/Bill_80/7_Conference/80-7_Conference_0507.pdf.

The total budget (including **All Funds**) for the State of Texas for the 2008-09 biennium will be **\$151.8 billion** (excluding \$14.2 billion set aside for future property tax relief), an increase of **\$9.4 billion or 6.6 percent** over last biennium. Higher Education agencies and related programs will receive approximately 14percent of the All Funds budget, equating to **\$21.18 billion** for the biennium — an increase of \$2.6 billion from 2006-07.

COORDINATING BOARD

The Coordinating Board received a 37 percent increase in combined appropriations for the operating budget and trusteed funds over the FY 2006-07 budget. The 2008-09 All Funds appropriation to the Coordinating Board is **\$1.277 billion**, an increase of **\$342 million** from the last

biennium. This not only includes \$100 million for a new incentive performance initiative, but also significant increases in financial aid, basic research, and other key programs designed to implement components of *Closing the Gaps by 2015*.

**COORDINATING BOARD APPROPRIATIONS
BY SOURCE OF FUNDS
(IN MILLIONS)**

<i>APPROPRIATIONS BILL</i>	<i>GENERAL REVENUE FUNDS</i>	<i>GENERAL REVENUE-DEDICATED FUNDS</i>	<i>FEDERAL FUNDS</i>	<i>OTHER FUNDS</i>	<i>ALL FUNDS</i>
* SB 1, as adopted 2006-07	\$ 738.9	\$23.1	\$ 119.9	\$ 52.7	\$ 934.6
** HB 1, as adopted 2008-09	\$ 1,031.7	\$44.1	\$ 123.6	\$ 77.4	\$ 1,276.8
<i>Difference</i>	\$ 292.8	\$ 21.0	\$ 3.7	\$ 24.7	\$ 342.2
<i>Biennial Changes</i>	39.6%	90.9%	3.1%	46.8%	36.6%

* Data from Legislative Budget Board, Text of Conference Committee Report Senate Bill No. 1, Regular Session (General Appropriations Act), May 26, 2005.

** Data compiled from Legislative Budget Board, Conference Committee Report: H.B. No. 1, General Appropriations Bill, May 25, 2007 and Office of the Governor, Veto Proclamation for H.B. No 1. (General Appropriations Bill), June 15, 2007.

FINANCIAL AID

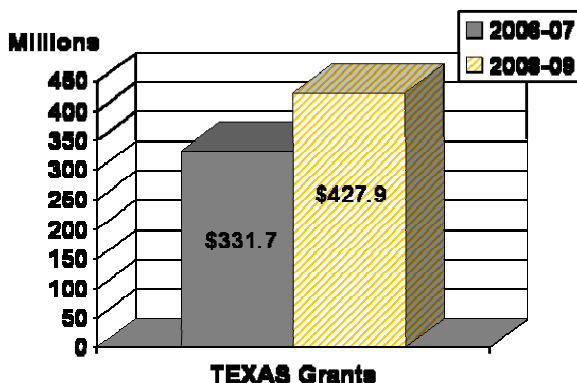
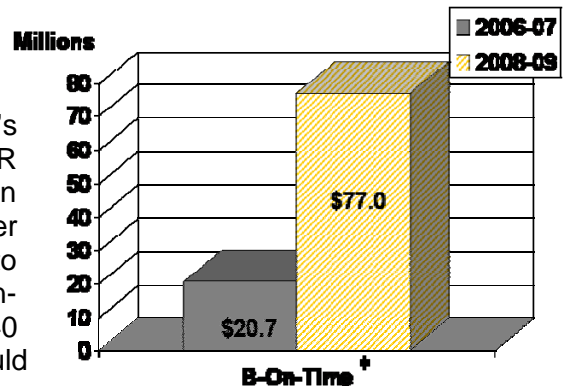
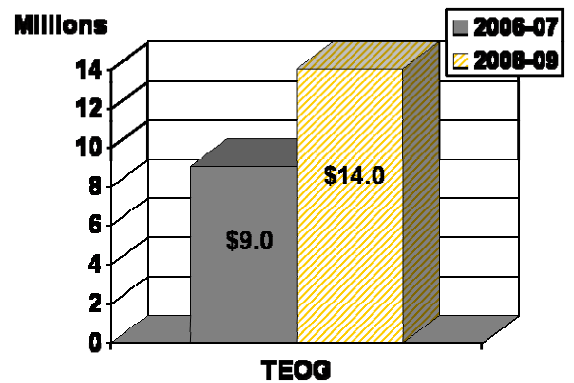
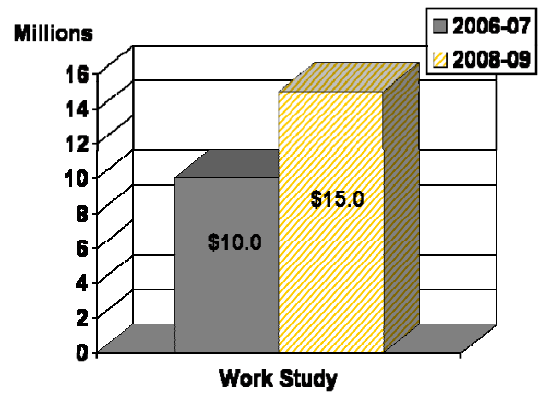
Funds appropriated for financial aid programs administered by the Coordinating Board experienced significant increases over FY 2006-07 totals. Total student financial aid funds increased by 28 percent to \$746 million with the B-on-Time (BOT) loan, College Work-Study, and the Texas Educational Opportunity Grant (TEOG) programs receiving significant increases as compared to the previous biennium's appropriation.

The College Work-Study program and TEOG both increased approximately 50 percent over last biennium. Meanwhile, the BOT loan program received more than three times the General Revenue appropriation from last budget, with approximately \$77 million designated for this biennium. However, projections indicate that this funding, at best, will only cover students currently in the program. Funding for new students will likely not be available. †

Additionally, funding for the TEXAS Grant program, which served approximately 66,000 students during the last biennium, was increased by \$96.2 million. The Coordinating Board anticipates that this 29 percent increase will help fund approximately 90,000 students in 2008-09.

Finally, while funding for the Texas Equalization Grant program (TEG) did not increase, it maintained level funding compared to last biennium at approximately \$211.7 million.

Aside from direct appropriations, the Coordinating Board's financial aid programs will also be enhanced by passage of SJR 57 and SB 1640. SJR 57 provides the citizens of Texas an opportunity to vote on a constitutional amendment in November 2007 that would authorize the Coordinating Board to utilize up to \$500 million in general obligation bonds for the Hinson-Hazlewood Student Loan Program. Additionally, SB 1640 provides more efficient bond management tools that could generate millions of additional dollars for college student loans.

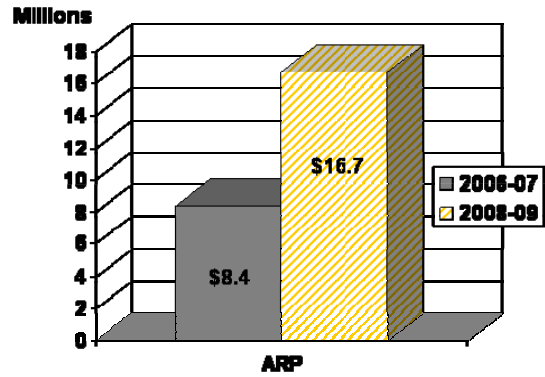


† The \$20.7 million for the B-On-Time loan program in 2006-07 reflects the General Revenue appropriation for that biennium, not total funds eventually available for the program. Funds available for the program during the 2006-07 biennium increased by approximately \$40 million with funding from savings achieved by refinancing Hinson-Hazlewood College Student Loan Program bonds. This will not be available for the 2008-09 biennium.

ADVANCED RESEARCH PROGRAM

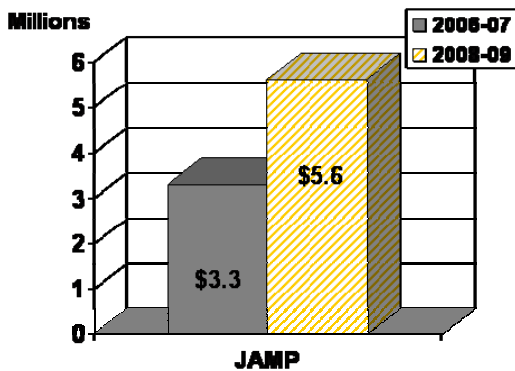
Increasing research in Texas is a key component of *Closing the Gaps by 2015*. The Advanced Research Program (ARP) is a competitive, peer-reviewed grant program designed to fund scientific and engineering basic research projects of faculty members at Texas higher education institutions. This session, the Legislature nearly doubled investment in the ARP, which is administered by the Coordinating Board.

The additional funding for ARP is contingent on the Comptroller's certification of available general revenue. Assuming this certification, the 2008-09 budget for the program will bring it close to its FY 2001 funding level.

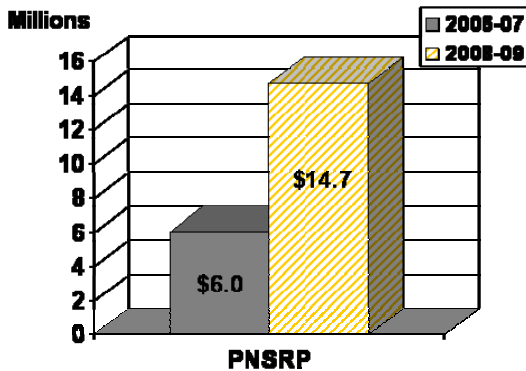


HEALTH-RELATED EDUCATION PROGRAMS

Health-related education programs administered by the Coordinating Board have become increasingly important in recent years, particularly for efforts designed to reduce critical shortages in many health-related professions in the state. While most of the programs maintained level funding from last biennium, the Joint Admission Medical Program (JAMP) and the Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program (PNSRP) experienced significant increases as a percentage of previous appropriations, and the Graduate Medical Education (GME) program funding was moved from trusted status to formula funding.



The JAMP was increased by almost 70 percent from previous levels, while the PNSRP was enhanced by \$8.7 million in additional funding, representing a 145 percent. As part of the additional funding for the PNSRP, the rider language for the program was also amended. Under the new requirements, community college nursing programs are limited to 40 percent of the total appropriated funds for this program, unless the Coordinating Board is unable to allocate remaining funds. Additionally, the rider authorizes the Coordinating Board to disburse an initial allocation to programs as early as September, which will allow institutions access to funds for a full year.



Finally, approximately \$3 million in funding for the GME program was transferred to formula funding for health-related institutions as opposed to trusted funds administered directly by the Coordinating Board. The \$600,000 in funds remaining in this Coordinating Board strategy will be used to fund graduate medical education programs that are unaffiliated with a medical school.

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

Funding administered by the Coordinating Board for community colleges related to enrollment growth has been reduced and is subject to new thresholds. To qualify for this funding under the existing calculations, community colleges needed to demonstrate growth in total contact hours of 10percent between the 2004 and 2005 academic years for FY 2006 funds, and 20percent between the 2005 and 2006 academic years for FY 2007 funds. The new funding formula has lowered the thresholds to 5 percent and 8 percent for FY 2008 and FY 2009, respectively. However, the total amount available under this strategy has been

reduced by \$1 million to approximately \$3.5 million for the biennium.

HB 1 also contained approximately \$3.2 million for new community college campuses. However, these funds were vetoed by the Governor, and are unavailable for the Coordinating Board to disburse. These funds were earmarked for the Alamo Community College District, the Austin Community College District, the Houston Community College District, Paris Junior College, and Temple College.

CENTERS FOR TEACHER EDUCATION

Funds trusted to the Coordinating Board to improve teacher education were increased by 22 percent over last biennium. The \$6.4 million will be used to fund Centers for Teacher Education at private, independent, and general academic

teaching institutions that are component institutions of the Texas Association of Developing Colleges. The funds are to be used to enhance library resources, as well as computer, mathematics, and science laboratories.

COORDINATING BOARD RIDERS

HB 1 contains 54 riders for the Coordinating Board, as well as a number of contingency riders and special provisions related to higher education. Below is a summary of new appropriation riders and significant amendments to existing appropriation riders.

(The references in parentheses at the end of each item refers to the page and rider number in the General Appropriations Act.)

- **Physician Education Loan Repayment Program.** Appropriates all general-revenue dedicated medical school tuition set-aside receipts received during the biennium beginning September 1, 2007 to the Coordinating Board to be used to fund the program. Also authorizes the carry forward of any balance in FY 2008 to FY 2009. (Page III-45, 7)
affiliated with a Texas medical school. Most of the existing funding for this program has been redirected to the health-related institutions' formula funding. (Page III-47, 16)
- **Centers for Teacher Education.** Adds a reporting requirement for all institutions participating in this program and receiving appropriated funds. Each institution must report data to the Coordinating Board no later than October 1 of each year. (Page III-47, 19)
- **Dramatic Enrollment Growth Funding for Two Year Institutions.** Changes the contact hour formula threshold for this funding from 10percent and 20 percent for FY 2006 and FY 2007, respectively, to 5 percent and 8 percent for FY 2008 and FY 2009, respectively. (Page III-46, 15)
- **Dental Education Loan Repayment Program.** Appropriates all dental school tuition set aside receipts received during the biennium beginning September 1, 2007 to the Coordinating Board to be used to fund the program. Also authorizes the carry forward of any balance in FY 2008 to FY 2009. (Page III-48, 25)
- **Graduate Medical Education.** Adds a provision that limits allocated funds to only independent residency programs that are not

- **African American Museum Internship.** Adds a reporting requirement for the museum and the Coordinating Board. No later than September 1 of each year, the museum is required to report data to the Board assessing the overall performance of the program. No later than October 1, 2008, the Coordinating Board must report to the Legislative Budget Board and the Governor's Office concerning the effectiveness of the program. (Page III-51, 39)
- **Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program.** Limits allocation of funds appropriated for this program at community colleges to no more than 40 percent each year of the biennium. Any funds not allocated to general academic teaching or health-related institutions may be used at community colleges above and beyond the threshold established by this rider. (Page III-52, 40)
- **College Readiness Initiative.** Provides direction for new funding appropriated to implement the college-readiness and success strategic plan, as well as completion and implementation of the course redesign project. Authorizes the Coordinating Board to carry forward as much as \$1 million in unexpended funds from HB 1, 79th Legislature, 3rd Called Session to FY 2008. Also authorizes unexpended funds from FY 2008 to be carried forward to FY 2009. (Page III-52, 42)
- **Doctoral Incentive Program.** Provides direction for funding related to the Doctoral Incentive Loan Repayment Program which provides loan repayment assistance for doctoral degree recipients who teach at a public or independent institution of higher education in the state. Appropriates all tuition set-aside receipts for the Doctoral Incentive Program received during the biennium beginning September 1, 2007 to the Coordinating Board to be used to fund the program. Also authorizes the carry forward of any balance in FY 2008 to FY 2009. (Page III-52, 43)
- **"College for Texans" Campaign License Plate.** Provides that funding generated from this specialty license plate program authorized in the Transportation Code be appropriated to the Coordinating Board's "College for Texans" campaign. Authorizes the Coordinating Board to carry forward any unexpended balances from FY 2008 to FY 2009. (Page III-53, 44)
- **Boy Scout Scholarships.** Provides that funding generated from this specialty license plate program authorized in the Transportation Code be appropriated to the Coordinating Board to help fund education programs sponsored by Boy Scout councils in Texas. Authorizes the Coordinating Board to carry forward any unexpended balances from FY 2007 to FY 2008, and from FY 2008 to FY 2009. (Page III-53, 45)
- **Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) Programs.** Provides that funding generated from this specialty license plate program authorized in the Transportation Code be appropriated to the Coordinating Board to help fund education programs sponsored by Mothers Against Drunk Driving. Authorizes the Coordinating Board to carry forward any unexpended balances from FY 2008 to FY 2009. (Page III-53, 46)
- **Cotton Boll Scholarships.** Provides that funding generated from this specialty license plate program authorized in the Transportation Code be appropriated to the Coordinating Board to fund scholarships for students pursuing a degree in an agricultural field related to the cotton industry. Authorizes the Coordinating Board to carry forward any unexpended balances from FY 2007 to FY 2008, and from FY 2008 to FY 2009. (Page III-53, 47)
- **Tobacco Settlement Receipts-Baylor College of Medicine.** Provides direction for funding appropriated to the Baylor College of Medicine from the Tobacco-Permanent Health Fund (TPHF) to include meeting the stipulations under TEC 62.002 (c), (d) and (f). Authorizes the appropriation of any additional funds from investment returns or otherwise available in the TPHF for distribution during the biennium. Also prohibits the appropriation of other funds to cover shortages if the distribution from the TPHF does not meet the appropriation set forth in HB 1. Finally, this rider authorizes the carry forward of any

unexpended balances from FY 2007 to FY 2008, and from FY 2008 to FY 2009. (Page III-53, 48)

- **Review of State Financial Aid Programs.**

Directs the Coordinating Board to utilize at least \$150,000 from appropriated funds to conduct a feasibility study on restructuring the state's financial aid programs. The study shall include:

- a. An analysis of the effects of requiring completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid as a condition of enrollment in a Texas public higher education institution;
- b. A proposal for converting the TEXAS Grant program into a direct student grant program based on a uniform assessment of financial need, including an estimate of changes in statewide facility use as a result of changes in student enrollment patterns;
- c. An analysis of the effects of using tuition deregulation and TPEG state tuition set-asides as an additional funding source for TEXAS Grants and a projection of the number of additional TEXAS Grants that could be offered with the additional funds;
- d. A proposal to convert the index used to establish the value of TEXAS Grants from statewide average tuition and fees to statewide average room and board (or other index of living expenses) and to determine the cost of providing tuition waivers for students at institutions with tuition and fees above the state average;
- e. A proposal or proposals for delivering TEXAS Grants as a stipend-based award that would allow students to access higher education tax credits through the federal tax system.

The Coordinating Board must report findings to the Legislative Budget Board and the Governor's Office no later than July 1, 2008. (Page III-54, 49)

- **Align Adult Basic Education and Postsecondary Education.** Directs the Coordinating Board to coordinate with the Texas Education Agency to develop and implement immediate and long-range action plans to align Adult Basic Education and postsecondary education. To increase the

number, success, and persistence of students transitioning to postsecondary education, these action plans shall address at a minimum:

- a. outreach and advising;
- b. assessment, curriculum, and instruction;
- c. persistence interventions;
- d. state-level accountability systems to monitor performance;
- e. service-provider-level performance measures and program evaluation;
- f. standards to enhance data quality and sharing among state agencies and service providers;
- g. needs assessment of students and service-providers to identify other structural issues and barriers; and
- h. grants (including Federal Funds and Other Funds) to maximize effective use of limited General Revenue Funds.

The rider also requires the Coordinating Board and TEA to enter into a revised Memorandum of Understanding no later than December 31, 2007, that identifies the respective roles for each agency implementing action plans necessary to successfully transition students enrolled in adult basic education into postsecondary education.

Finally, the rider requires the Coordinating Board, in conjunction with the TEA and Texas Workforce Commission, to conduct an analysis assessing the current and projected future demand for adult education in Texas, the types of programs and instruction necessary to serve current and projected future populations of adult learners, and the social and economic outcomes of providing varying levels of adult education services in Texas. The report shall include a comparative analysis of adult basic education programs offered in other states and shall identify best practices in adult education. The report shall study the current organizational structure and agency roles in providing adult education and make recommendations for achieving state goals efficiently and effectively. For the purpose of this report, the Coordinating Board is considered the lead agency and is required to submit the report to the Workforce Investment Council, the Legislative Budget Board, and the Governor's Office no later than September 1, 2008. (Page III-54, 50)

- OAG Lawyer's Loan Repayment Program.** All balances in the General Revenue Fund that are dedicated tuition set-asides under this program as of August 31, 2007, estimated to be \$537,434, and all receipts received during the biennium are authorized to be carried forward by the Coordinating Board for the biennium beginning September 1, 2007. Authorizes the Coordinating Board to carry forward any unexpended from FY 2008 to FY 2009.
- Appropriations Contingent Upon Certification of Revenue Above the Biennial Revenue Estimate.** Stipulates that the appropriations for the Advanced Research Program under strategy C.1.1 is contingent on the Comptroller's certification of available General Revenue of \$8,309,078 for the biennium above the Comptroller's January 2007 Biennial Revenue Estimate. (Page III-55, 54)

SPECIAL PROVISION RIDERS

- Ethics Policy.** Stipulates that no funds appropriated to an institution of higher education in the General Appropriations Act may be expended until its governing board has filed with the Coordinating Board an ethics policy that has been adopted by the board of regents. The ethics policy must apply to the board of regents and its staff, the administration, staff, and faculty of the institutions under the board's governance.
- The ethics policy shall include specific provisions regarding sexual harassment. (Page III-223, Spec. Provisions, Sec. 24)
- Special Item Appropriations.** In addition to amounts appropriated in the General Appropriations Act, the following amounts from General Revenue are appropriated for the 2008-09 biennium. (Page III-231, Spec. Provisions, Sec. 54):

Community Colleges, Bachelor of Applied Technology BAT Degrees	\$ 600,000
Texas Tech University Institutional Enhancement	5,200,000
Prairie View A&M University Agriculture Match	4,000,000
Prairie View A&M University Community Development	100,000
Texas Agriculture Extension Service Biological Energy Alliance	4,000,000
Texas Agriculture Extension Service Feedyard Beef Cattle Production	850,000
Texas A&M University Summer School	3,000,000
Texas A&M University Kingsville Wildlife Research	62,080
University of Houston-Victoria Master's Degree in Nursing	1,100,000
The University of Texas at Austin Marine Science Institute	2,000,000
The University of Texas at Dallas Science Engineering and Math	2,000,000
The University of Texas-Tyler Institutional Enhancement	1,500,000
Veterinary Medical Diagnostic Lab Bio Safety Lab	2,000,000
Angelo State University Institutional Enhancement	1,000,000
Texas State University-San Marcos School Safety Center	3,000,000
University of Houston Wind Energy	5,000,000
A&M University Health Science Center Medical School Expansion	19,000,000
Texas Tech Health Sciences Center Cancer Research	4,800,000
Texas Tech Health Sciences Center Physician Assistant Program	1,016,500
UT Health Science Center—Houston World's Greatest Scientist	5,000,000
UT Southwestern Medical Center Obesity, Diabetes & Metabolism	18,000,000
A&M University Health Science Center Med. School Expansion-Temple	4,000,000
TOTAL	\$87,228,580

- **Higher Education Performance Incentive Initiative.** Part 4 of this rider establishes the Higher Education Performance Incentive Initiative. The Coordinating Board, in conjunction with the Governor's Office, shall develop an incentive program in teaching and educational excellence at Texas public general academic teaching institutions. A portion of the funds for this program may also be used to establish scholarship programs for

undergraduate students who graduated from high school in the top 10 percent of their class.

A total of \$100 million has been appropriated for this initiative. The Coordinating Board shall submit a proposal for the initiative to the Legislative Budget Board and the Governor's Office no later than January 1, 2008.
(Page III-234, Spec. Provisions, Sec. 55(4))

ARTICLE IX RIDERS

Contingency Appropriation for House Bill 2978. For each year of the biennium, the Coordinating Board is appropriated \$1 million to implement programs stipulated in HB 2978, to

include a summer engineering program and scholarships for undergraduate students majoring in engineering. (Page IX-101, Sec. 19.95)

TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY RIDERS

- **Contingency for House Bill 2237: Texas High School Completion and Success Initiative.** Part (e) of this Texas Education Agency (TEA) rider directs the TEA to enter into a memorandum of understanding with the Coordinating Board for the transfer of appropriations and full-time equivalents from the Texas Education Agency to the Coordinating Board to implement the provisions of the HB 2237. A signed copy of the memorandum of understanding shall be provided to the Legislative Budget Board and the Governor no later than December 31, 2007. This memorandum will help the Coordinating Board implement a number of new programs under this legislation, to include Math and Science Teacher Preparation Academies. (Page III-17, 53)

- **Programs to Encourage Certification to Teach Bilingual Education, English as a Second Language, or Spanish.** This rider directs the TEA to consult with institutions of higher education and the Coordinating Board to develop and operate a program to assist students enrolled at institutions of higher education in educator preparation programs in bilingual education, English as a second language, or Spanish by providing financial incentives, such as tuition assistance, to encourage those students to become certified to teach bilingual education, English as a second language, or Spanish.
(Page III-19, 67)

**SUMMARY OF
HIGHER EDUCATION LEGISLATION**

BY TOPIC

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

HB 1634 MOVING IMAGE INDUSTRY INCENTIVE PROGRAM

Author: Dukes

Sponsor: Deuell

Summary: HB 1634 authorizes the Moving Image Industry Incentive Program to contract with public junior colleges to create a moving image industry personnel training program for expanding the workforce in the industry. The Coordinating would assist in the development of performance measures for the program.

Code Reference: Amends Government Code Chapter 485

Effective Date: May 21, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes.

CB Reporting Requirement: No.

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs & Research

HB 2074 EAST WILLIAMSON COUNTY MULTI-INSTITUTION TEACHING CENTER.

Author: Krusee

Sponsor: Ogden

Summary: HB 2074 authorizes the Temple Junior College District to establish the East Williamson County Multi-Institution Teaching Center in conjunction with Tarleton State University, Texas State Technical College-Waco, or another public or private institution of higher education. The Center may offer academic credit courses and programs provided by the member institutions that helped establish the Center.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 130, Subchapter F

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

**HB 2978 ENGINEERING RECRUITMENT PROGRAMS ESTABLISHED BY THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION
COORDINATING BOARD.**

Author: Morrison

Sponsor: Shapiro

Summary: Among other provisions, HB 2978 adds Section 61.791 to the Education Code that requires the Coordinating Board to design and administer a one-week summer program to take place on campuses that offer engineering degree programs. The program is to be designed for

middle and high school students in order to expose them to math, science, and engineering concepts. The Coordinating Board is authorized to adopt rules to administer the summer program, to include admissions standards.

HB 1 has appropriated \$1 million each year of the biennium to finance these programs.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 61, Subchapter Q
Effective Date: June 12, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

(Also see Financial Aid in this report)

HB 3382

PROVIDING CERTAIN COMPUTERIZED INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIAL FOR BLIND AND VISUALLY IMPAIRED STUDENTS AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

Author: Naishtat *Sponsor:* Uresti

Summary: HB 3382 requires college textbook publishers to make electronic copies of textbooks and other assigned written materials promptly available to universities, if requested, for use by visually impaired students and those diagnosed with dyslexia. The electronic files are to be used by institutions to produce special instruction material to meet the needs of visually impaired and dyslexic students. The legislation requires visually impaired students to demonstrate proof of purchase for actual textbook to avoid copyright violations. The legislation also provides a publisher an exemption from the statutory requirements if the textbook required is out of print or in a format that is impractical to convert into the needed electronic format.

HB 3382 requires the Coordinating Board, in conjunction with stakeholder groups, to adopt rules to implement the statute, to include the levying of administrative penalties not to exceed \$250 for each violation.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 51.970
Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research, General Counsel

SB 480

DEFINITION OF PRIVATE OR INDEPENDENT INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION APPLICABLE TO CERTAIN STATUTES.

Author: Janek *Sponsor:* Gattis

Summary: The Education Code defines private institutions of higher education to include those private or independent institutions accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) or the Liaison Committee on Medical Education. However, there is currently no accrediting body for independent law schools defined in Texas statute, to include the American Bar Association (ABA). South Texas College of Law is not currently accredited by any other entity other than the ABA. As such, the college is not

considered a private or independent institution as defined by Texas statute. This statutory technicality impacts other areas of code that address issues ranging from employment to financial aid.

SB 480 amends the Education Code to include the American Bar Association as a recognized accrediting agent in Texas for the purpose of defining independent and private institutions of higher education.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 61.003(15)

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No.

CB Reporting Requirement: No.

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

SB 1051

EXEMPTION FROM GOVERNMENT AND HISTORY COURSES FOR FOREIGN STUDENTS IN JOINT DEGREE PROGRAMS.

Author: Zaffirini

Sponsor: Guillen

Summary: Current law requires a state-mandated core curriculum for students to qualify for graduation from a public institution of higher education in Texas. This core curriculum includes course instruction in government and Texas and American History.

SB 1051 authorizes the governing board of an institution of higher education to exempt foreign students enrolled in joint degree programs with Texas universities from the required 12 semester credit hours of Government/Political Science and Texas and American History. In lieu of this requirement, such students must take a four hour American Way course that provides basic instruction on American government. This exemption would apply only to foreign students enrolled in joint degree programs conferred by both a Texas and a foreign university.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 51.301, 51.302; Adds TEC 61.822(e)

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No.

CB Reporting Requirement: No.

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

ADMISSIONS

HB 3851 **STANDARDIZED HIGH SCHOOL GPA FOR HIGHER EDUCATION PURPOSES**

Author: Morrison

Sponsor: Shapiro

Summary: HB 3851 requires the Coordinating Board to adopt rules establishing a standard method for computing a student's high school grade point average based on a four-point scale. The calculation must assign additional weight to honors, advanced placement, international baccalaureate, and dual credit courses. The new GPA calculations would be applied to the class entering general academic teaching institutions beginning in the fall of 2009.

Additionally, the bill requires that the annual report each general academic teaching institution is required to submit to Coordinating Board each year include high school standing in the demographic breakdown describing the composition of the institution's entering class of students. The report must also include a description of any plans, policies, or programs developed or implemented by the institutions to recruit and retain students from underrepresented groups. The deadline for the report has been changed from July 1 to December 1.

HB 3851 also requires each institution to adopt a written policy to promote the admission of undergraduate transfer students to the institution. This policy must include outreach and recruiting programs at junior colleges and may include incentives to increase transfers.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 28.0252(b), 51.4032, 51.807-51.808, 51.4032

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Planning and Accountability

HB 3826

HIGH SCHOOL CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS FOR ADMISSIONS TO PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

Author: Morrison

Sponsor: Zaffirini

Summary: HB 3826 requires students to meet one of the following three standards to qualify for admissions to a general academic teaching institution in the state of Texas:

- Complete the recommended or advanced high school program;
- Complete a curriculum that is equivalent in content and rigor as the recommended or high school program at a school for which the recommended or advanced high school program does not apply; or
- Satisfy the ACT's College Readiness Benchmarks on the ACT assessment, or earn a score of at least 1,500 out of 2,400 on the SAT assessment.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 51.803-51.805, 51.807

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Participation and Success

APPROPRIATIONS / FUNDING

SB 968

FINANCING TOOLS FOR CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS FOR PUBLIC IMPROVEMENTS AND FOR CERTAIN OBLIGATIONS OF THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS SYSTEM.

Author: West, Royce

Sponsor: Chisum

Summary: SB 968 authorizes state agencies and local government issuers of debt obligations to employ modern interest rate management products in order to reduce borrowing costs, manage interest rate management products, and manage interest rate risks. The legislation requires cities to observe prudent financial practices in authorizing and monitoring interest rate management agreements and it makes clear that an obligation authorized under the statute is not valid, binding, or enforceable unless it is first approved by the Attorney General and registered with the Comptroller. SB 968 also authorizes the University of Texas to enter into bond enhancement agreements.

Code Reference: Amends Government Code 1371.001, 1371.003, 1371.051, 1371.056, 1371.057, 1371.059; Adds Government Code 1371.061, TEC 65.461

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Planning and Accountability, Business Services

SB 1332

ESTABLISHMENT OF DEBT MANAGEMENT POLICIES AND GUIDELINES BY THE BOND REVIEW BOARD.

Author: West, Royce

Sponsor: Chavez

Summary: SB 1332 expands the powers and duties of the Bond Review Board (BRB) and makes changes related to state bond issuance and debt management. Specifically, the legislation:

- Requires a state issuer of bonds to, at the request of the BRB, provide a copy of any RFP published by an issuer for bond-related services and a copy of all responses to the RFP;
- Encourages issuers of state debt to use Texas businesses and HUB businesses when selecting service providers to assist in issuance of debt;
- Establishes minimum qualifications for persons that may be considered as a financial adviser or an investment adviser under the act, and sets standards of conduct for such advisers, including limits on the amount and kind of gifts and gratuities an adviser can give to state employees or elected officials;
- Allows the BRB to set priorities, by lot, for reservations of the amount of debt that may be issued in any year among certain issuers; and

- Requires the BRB, in consultation with the LBB, to prepare an annual "debt affordability study" that would apprise the Governor, the Comptroller, the presiding officer of each house, and the Senate Finance Committee and the House Appropriations Committee of the state's debt use and recommend debt levels and policies.

Code Reference: Adds Government Code 1201.027(d), 1231.001(1-a), 1231.063, 1232.124, 1371 Subchapter D; Amends Government Code 1231.001(2), 1231.023(c), 1372.031, 1372.063.

Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Business Services

SB 1446

REMOVAL OF INDIRECT COST RECOVERY FEES FROM THE LIST OF ITEMS THAT MUST BE ACCOUNTED FOR AS EDUCATIONAL AND GENERAL FUNDS BY INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

Author: Duncan

Sponsor: McCall

Summary: The 78th Texas Legislature, Regular Session (2003) amended the Education Code to prohibit the accounting of indirect cost recovery fees in an appropriations act in such a way as to reduce the general revenue funds to be appropriated to a general academic teaching institution of higher education. The legislature simultaneously ceased to use indirect cost recovery fees in its General Appropriations Act in order to reduce general revenue appropriations to such institutions. The 79th Legislature, Regular Session (2005) eliminated indirect cost recoveries from the strategies and methods of finance in its General Appropriations Act.

SB 1446 conforms the definition of educational and general funds with the 2003 amendment regarding the accounting of indirect cost recovery fees by deleting the requirement that they be accounted for as educational and general funds.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 51.009(c)

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Planning and Accountability

COMMISSIONS

HB 2237 **HIGH SCHOOL COMPLETION AND SUCCESS INITIATIVE COUNCIL**

Author: Eissler

Sponsor: Shapiro

Summary: Among other provisions, HB 2237 establishes the High School Completion and Success Initiative Council which includes the Commissioner of Higher Education, the Commissioner of Education, and seven appointees of the Commissioner of Education. The appointees of the Commissioner of Education shall be made as follows:

- Three members from a list of nominations by the Governor;
- Two members from a list of nominations by the Lieutenant Governor; and
- Two members from a list of nominations by the Speaker of the House.

The Commissioner of Education will serve as the presiding officer, and each member shall serve in two year terms with the possibility for reappointment for additional terms. The Council will be staffed by the Texas Education Agency, with support from the Coordinating Board.

The Council is charged with developing a strategic plan aimed at improving high school completion rates and identifying strategies to better align federal and other funds with programs dedicated to high school reform, dropout prevention, and preparation of students for postsecondary coursework or employment. Both the TEA and the Coordinating Board are authorized to adopt rules as necessary to implement provisions of the strategic plan. Additionally, HB 2237 authorizes the Council to provide grants to public school districts and institutions of higher education for programs designed to meet the goals of the strategic plan, to include funding for student clubs, the Intensive Summer Program, the Intensive Technology-Based Academic Intervention Pilot Program, and other programs created by this statute.

HB 2237 requires the Commissioner of Education to report by December 1 of even-numbered years on any recommended legislative changes the Council considers necessary to meet the goals of the strategic plan. Additionally, the Commissioner of Education is required to issue progress reports on March 1 and September 1 of each year.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 7.009(a-b), 25.091, 28.006, 28.008, 28.0211; Adds TEC 7.031, 7.062, 21.4511, 21.4541, 21.4551, 21.462, 28.008; Repeals TEC 28.0211(l)

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes

- 1) Rules for teacher preparation academies under TEC 21.462
- 2) Rules to implement strategic plan under TEC 39, Subchapter L

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Participation and Success

(Also see P-16 Initiatives in this report.)

Author: Morrison

Sponsor: Shapleigh

Summary: HCR 159 requires the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Speaker of the House to appoint a Select Commission to study higher education issues in Texas to achieve the following goals:

- Educate the population of Texas to levels comparable to the highest performing competitor states and nations;
- Achieve global recognition for Texas public colleges and universities for excellence in their core missions and for innovations that strengthen the state's economy and improve the quality of life for its citizens; and
- Serve different regions of Texas in ways that respond to each region's unique higher education needs.

The Commission will be composed of 15 members, to include five members appointed by the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, and the Speaker of the House. A presiding officer of the Commission will be appointed by the membership. The Commission is charged to study the following issues related to higher education:

- Examine current trends in educational attainment in Texas and competitor states and nations and the potential impact of those trends on the state's long-term economic competitiveness and quality of life;
- Identify objectives and accountability measures related to the state's educational attainment goals, including performance benchmarks comparing the best performing programs in Texas with the best performing programs in competitor states and nations;
- Enhance regional support for higher education and strengthening the link between higher education and regional economic development goals;
- Identify methods to improve the number of Texas adults attaining postsecondary credentials and strengthening the role and performance of Texas' community colleges;
- Structure higher education funding to reward student and institutional outcomes that are aligned with state and regional priorities;
- Increase the quantity, quality, and commercialization of university-based research;
- Assess long-term higher education capacity needs and creative approaches to meeting those needs;
- Create a policy research mechanism to track, analyze, and make recommendations to state policy makers based on the state's progress in achieving goals with respect to educational attainment and economic competitiveness; and
- Study the effect of tuition deregulation and higher tuition rates on participation in higher education, and whether tuition deregulation and higher tuition rates have adversely affected participation in higher education by minority or rural students.

The Commission is required to report their findings and recommendations to the Governor and Legislature by November 1, 2008.

Code Reference: n/a

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Commissioner's Office

COMMUNITY COLLEGES

HB 534 **AUTHORIZING THE LEASE OR CONVEYANCE OF CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY OWNED BY AMARILLO COLLEGE.**

Author: Smithee *Sponsor:* Seliger

Summary: In 2002, the Texas State Technical College conveyed real property to Amarillo College. HB 534 provides statutory authority for Amarillo College to lease or convey all or part of this property to another party. The legislation requires that the lease or conveyance of the property to another party be for a public purpose. In the event that the real property is not used in this manner, the property will automatically revert back to Amarillo College

Code Reference: n/a
Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Planning and Accountability

HB 1374 **SERVICE AREAS OF THE AMARILLO COLLEGE DISTRICT AND THE BORGER JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICT**

Author: Swinford *Sponsor:* Seliger

Summary: HB 1374 redefines the service areas of the Amarillo College District and the Borger Junior College District. The legislation expands the Amarillo College District by incorporating all of Moore County, including the portion that is currently included in the Borger Junior College District.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 130.164, 130.169, 130.188, 130.193
Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

HB 2198 **AUTHORIZING CERTAIN PUBLIC JUNIOR COLLEGES TO OFFER BACCALAUREATE DEGREES.**

Author: Flores *Sponsor:* Janek

Summary: Current law authorizes the Coordinating Board to establish a pilot program to examine the feasibility and effectiveness of allowing certain public junior colleges to offer baccalaureate degrees in the fields of applied science and technology. To date, South Texas College, Brazosport College, and Midland College are participating in this pilot program. The statute requires the Coordinating Board to report on progress of the approved pilot projects by 2009, and make recommendations to the Legislature on whether to continue or expand the project by 2011. All programs, unless otherwise extended by the Legislature, would end by 2015.

HB 2198 eliminates the pilot status of the program and effectively authorizes the three junior colleges previously approved to continue offering baccalaureate degrees into the future with no further sunset provision. The statute continues to limit the amount of degree programs for each junior college to no more than five. And additional programs approved by the Coordinating Board for these institutions must meet standards for such programs prescribed by the Board. The programs must also continue to report to the Coordinating Board on their status and effectiveness.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 130.0012
Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

HB 3236

SERVICE AREAS OF THE BLINN JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICT AND AUSTIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT.

Author: Cook, Robby *Sponsor:* Hegar

Summary: HB 3236 redefines the junior college district boundaries for those areas that overlap between Blinn Junior College District and Austin Community College District

Code Reference: Amends TEC 130.166, 130.168
Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

HB 3827

AUTHORITY FOR THE GOVERNING BOARD OF A JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICT TO HOLD AN OPEN OR CLOSED MEETING BY TELEPHONE CONFERENCE CALL.

Author: Morrison

Sponsor: Zaffirini

Summary: HB 3827 authorizes a junior college district to hold a formal meeting by conference call under the following specific circumstances:

- A physical quorum exists at the location the where meetings are usually held;
- Each part of the telephone conference call is audible to the public and recorded for future public access;
- Identification of those on telephone conference call shall be made clear; and
- A member who participates by telephone conference who is not physically present at location where meeting is held is considered absent for the purpose of a quorum.

Code Reference: Adds Government Code 551.122; Amends Government Code 551.121(c)

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: General Counsel

FEES

HB 868

RECREATIONAL FACILITY FEE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO.

Author: Haggerty

Sponsor: Shapleigh

Summary: HB 868 authorizes the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP) to increase their recreational facility fee from \$12 to no more than \$70 for a regular academic semester of 10 weeks or longer. The recreational facility fee may not exceed \$50 for a semester less than 10 weeks. The increased recreational fee will be used to finance the planning, construction, and operation of new recreational facilities at UTEP.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 54.541(a)(c)

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Student Services

HB 902

STUDENT FITNESS AND RECREATIONAL FEE AT TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY.

Author: Crownover

Sponsor: Estes

Summary: HB 902 authorizes Texas Woman's University (TWU) to impose a student fitness and recreational fee not to exceed \$125 for a regular academic semester of 6 weeks or longer. The fitness and recreational fee may not exceed \$62.50 for a summer session of less than 6 weeks. The fitness and recreational fee will be used to finance construct, operate, maintain, or improve a fitness or recreational program at TWU. The fee may not be imposed or increased by more than 10% unless first approved by a majority of students at TWU.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 54.5251

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Student Services

HB 1157**STUDENT SERVICES BUILDING FEE AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS OF THE PERMIAN BASIN.***Author:* West, Buddy*Sponsor:* Seliger

Summary: HB 1157 authorizes the University of Texas Board of Regents to impose on each student attending the University of Texas of the Permian Basin (UTPB) a fee not to exceed \$150 for a regular academic semester. The fee shall not exceed \$75 for a summer semester of 6 weeks or more, and shall not exceed \$50 for a summer semester less than 6 weeks. The fee will be used to finance the construction and operation of a student services building. Any fee increases must be approved by a majority of students enrolled in UTPB.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 54.5332*Effective Date:* June 15, 2007*CB Rulemaking:* No*CB Reporting Requirement:* No*Lead CB Division:* Student Services**HB 1505****FEE TO SUPPORT INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETICS AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT BROWNSVILLE.***Author:* Lucio III*Sponsor:* Lucio

Summary: The University of Texas at Brownsville and Texas Southmost College currently fund their athletic programs through a general student services fee of \$12 per credit hour, with a \$150 cap per student. The athletics department currently receives 37 percent of the total funds raised through this fee.

HB 1505 establishes a \$7 per credit hour intercollegiate athletics fee at these institutions of higher education for the purpose of funding a separate athletics department budget from the general student services fee.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 54.551*Effective Date:* May 18, 2007*CB Rulemaking:* No*CB Reporting Requirement:* No*Lead CB Division:* Student Services**HB 3114****STUDENT FEES AT COMPONENT INSTITUTIONS OF THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.***Author:* Swinford*Sponsor:* Zaffirini

Summary: HB 3114 is an omnibus student fee bill for the Texas A&M University System and all its component institutions. The bill does the following:

- Authorizes the creation of a 9-member student fee advisory committee at each component institution in the system to advise the board of regents and administration of fee related issues;

- Increases the maximum authorized recreational sports fee for a regular academic semester at component institutions from \$100 to \$175, and from \$50 to \$87.50 for a summer academic semester;
- Authorizes increases in the recreational sports fee not to exceed ten percent without voter approval by the students at the component institution;
- Authorizes the board of regents to hold a public hearing for any increase in compulsory fees, even if the increase does not trigger a vote of the student body; and
- Authorizes the imposition of an intercollegiate athletics fee at Texas A&M International University, West Texas A&M University, and Texas A&M University—Commerce not to exceed \$10 per semester and only if approved by students.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 54.5031(a), TEC 54.539(a)(c-d); Adds TEC 54.5032, 54.5395, 54.5396, 54.5397

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Student Services

(Also see SB 1495 in this section)

\ **SB 161**

INTERCOLLEGIATE ATHLETIC FEES AT INSTITUTIONS WITHIN THE TEXAS STATE UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.

Author: Wentworth

Sponsor: Deshotel

Summary: SB 161 authorizes the board of regents of the Texas State University System to impose an intercollegiate athletics fee for each student at component institutions within the system. The initial fee, and any subsequent increase that exceeds ten percent, must be approved by the student body. SB 161 includes additional provisions for Texas State University-San Marcos. The legislation requires TSU-San Marcos to establish an intercollegiate athletics fee committee to advise the board of regents regarding expenditures. Additionally, the board of regents may not increase the fee at TSU-San Marcos more than five percent without student body approval.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 54.5381, 54.5382

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Student Services

SB 285

IMPOSITION OF CERTAIN FEES ON STUDENTS ENROLLED AT THE UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT DALLAS.

Author: Shapiro

Sponsor: Hill

Summary: SB 285 authorizes the board of regents of the University of Texas System to impose on each student attending the University of Texas at Dallas a transportation fee, a student services building fee, and an intramural and intercollegiate athletics fee. The student body must approve the imposition of each fee, as well as any increase for these fees that exceed ten percent.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 54.5311-54.5313

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No.

CB Reporting Requirement: No.

Lead CB Division: Student Services

SB 1233

GENERAL PROPERTY DEPOSIT PAID BY A STUDENT TO A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

Author: Zaffirini

Sponsor: Morrison

Summary: Current law authorizes a public institution of higher education to collect a general property deposit fee for the purpose of reimbursing expenses related to damages of property or laboratory equipment caused by a student.

SB 1233 authorizes institutions of higher education to apply funds from a general deposit fee to other expenses incurred by a student but not otherwise paid upon withdrawal or graduation. The legislation also clarifies a specific timeline for refunding the deposit to students upon their withdrawal or graduation from the institution.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 54.203(a), 54.204(b), 54.205(a)(4), 54.502(a), 54.5021(a), 54.5022

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Student Services

SB 1417

STUDENT ENDOWMENT SCHOLARSHIP AND INTERNSHIP PROGRAM FUND FEE AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CORPUS CHRISTI.

Author: Hinojosa

Sponsor: Ortiz

Summary: SB 1417 authorizes the board of regents of the Texas A&M University System to impose on each student enrolled at Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi a student endowment fund fee. The funds generated by the fee must be used to support a student endowment at the university. The fee may not be imposed, or increased by more than 10 percent, unless otherwise approved by the student body.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 54.5395; Amends TEC 56.243, 56.246, 56.247(a)(c)

Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Student Services

SB 1495

STUDENT FEES AT COMPONENT INSTITUTIONS OF THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.

Author: Zaffirini

Sponsor: Swinford

Summary: SB 1495 is comprehensive student fee legislation that provides for the following at institutions of the Texas A&M University System:

- Establishes a student fee advisory committee at each component institution;
- Increases the maximum amount allowed for a recreation sports fee at each component institution from \$100 to \$175 for a regular academic semester; and
- Establishes an intercollegiate athletics fee at Texas A&M International University, West Texas A&M University, and Texas A&M University--Commerce subject to student approval for both imposition and any increases that exceed 10 percent;

Code Reference: Amends TEC 54.5031(a), 54.539(a)(c-e); Adds TEC 54.5032, 54.5395-54.5397

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Student Services

(Also see HB 3114 in this section)

FINANCIAL AID

HB 1250 **PROHIBITING DISCRIMINATION BASED ON A STUDENT'S SECONDARY SCHOOL IN AWARDING FINANCIAL AID FOR HIGHER EDUCATION.**

Author: Howard, Charlie *Sponsor:* Patrick

Summary: Current law establishes specific eligibility criteria for the Texas B-On-Time loan program. One criteria states that a student must graduate from a public or accredited private high school under the recommended or advanced high school program curriculum to qualify. HB 1250 amends the statute to remove the private school accreditation stipulation and grant eligibility to students who graduate from programs that are the equivalent to the recommended or advanced high school program curriculum.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 56.455

Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Student Services

HB 2383 **PROVISION OF CERTAIN SUBSIDIES AND SCHOLARSHIPS TO PARTICULAR PUBLIC SCHOOL STUDENTS OR GRADUATES.**

Author: Lucio III *Sponsor:* Lucio

Summary: Among other provisions, HB 2383 amends criteria for the Early High School Graduation Scholarship Program. Specifically, it clarifies that participants must graduate from a public high school in Texas and that they receive a majority of their high school education in Texas. It also requires that participants be citizens of the United States, or have formal authorization to be present in the United States, to qualify.

HB 2383 also increases the time-to-graduation threshold for participants who qualify for the program by graduating early and achieving at least 30 hours of college credits. The legislation allows these qualifying students to graduate in 46 consecutive months rather than 45 months, as allowed under current law.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 56.203; Adds TEC 29.190

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Student Services

HB 2978**ENGINEERING RECRUITMENT PROGRAMS ESTABLISHED BY THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD.***Author:* Morrison*Sponsor:* Shapiro

Summary: Among other provisions, HB 2978 adds Section 61.792 to the Education Code that establishes an engineering scholarship program to be administered by the Coordinating Board. The scholarships shall be awarded to students pursuing an engineering degree at an institution of higher education in Texas. Qualifying students must have achieved a grade point average in high school placing them in the top 20 percent of their class, graduated from high school with no less than a 3.5 on a 4-point scale (or the equivalent) in math and science classes, and maintain no less than a 3.0 on a 4-point GPA scale while attending an institution of higher education. The Coordinating Board is authorized to adopt rules to administer the scholarship program, including award amounts.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 61.791-61.793

Effective Date: June 12, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Student Services

(Also see Academic Affairs in this report)

HB 3900**TEXAS TOMORROW FUND II PREPAID TUITION UNIT UNDERGRADUATE EDUCATION PROGRAM.***Author:* Morrison*Sponsor:* Shapiro

Summary: Currently, the Texas Tomorrow Fund is no longer accepting new applications. HB 3900 creates the Texas Tomorrow Fund II which allows families to lock in current rates for tuition and required fees for a student's future higher education costs. Each participant in the program will be able to purchase individual units that equate to one percent of the cost of tuition and fees for one year at an institution of higher education. Participants will have an option to purchase three types of units that are based on the cost of tuition and fees:

- Type I: Unit based on the cost of undergraduate resident tuition and mandatory fees at the general academic teaching institution with the highest rate for tuition and such fees;
- Type II: Unit based on the weighted average cost of undergraduate resident tuition and mandatory fees at all general academic teaching institutions; and
- Type III: Unit based on the weighted average cost of undergraduate resident tuition and mandatory fees at two-year institutions of higher education.

The cost per unit will be determined by the Prepaid Higher Education Tuition Board, which will administer the program. This fund is designed so that the money paid into the fund will realize investment returns over time which will help pay for any future increases in tuition and fees.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 54.751-54.778
Effective Date: June 12, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Student Services

SB 1325

ELIGIBILITY OF RELATIVES OF PUBLIC COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY BOARD MEMBERS TO RECEIVE CERTAIN SCHOLARSHIPS.

Author: West, Royce *Sponsor:* McCall

Summary: SB 1325 prohibits relatives of public college and university board members from receiving certain scholarships from the institution or system on whose board the member serves. The legislation exempts the following:

- Scholarships provided by a private organization or third-party not affiliated with the institution or university system;
- Scholarships awarded exclusively on merit;
- Athletic scholarships; and
- If the relationship to the student is an indirect relationship.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 51.969
Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Student Services

SB 1640**STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM ADMINISTERED BY THE HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD.***Author:* Williams*Sponsor:* Chisum

Summary: Among other provisions, SB 1640 is the enabling legislation for SJR 57, which is a constitutional amendment that authorizes the Coordinating Board to issue up to \$500 million in general obligation bonds for the purpose of providing low-interest student loans under the Hinson-Hazlewood College Student Loan Program. SB 1640 also provides for technical improvements for how the Coordinating Board issues and handles bond proceeds, to include reducing the set asides for the Interest and Sinking Fund, and authorizing transfers of funds between the Auxiliary Fund and the Texas Opportunity Plan fund.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 52.01, 52.17(a)(c-d), 52.19, 52.501(4), 52.541(c), 52.81(2), 52.82(a)(c), 52.87, 54.203(e); Repeals 52.14, 52.15, 52.32(d); Adds TEC 52.17(a-1)

Effective Date: August 26, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No.

CB Reporting Requirement: No.

Lead CB Division: General Counsel; Student Services

(Also see Waivers in this report.)

SJR 57**ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS TO FINANCE EDUCATIONAL LOANS TO STUDENT.***Author:* Williams*Sponsor:* Chisum

Summary: The Texas Constitution authorizes the Coordinating Board to issue general obligation bonds in an amount not to exceed \$400 million for the purpose of financing low-interest education loans through the Hinson-Hazelwood College Student Loan Program. This authorization is expected to be exhausted in 2009.

SJR 57 authorizes a constitutional amendment, approved by voters, to increase the bond authorization for this program to \$500 million.

Code Reference: Amends Article III, Texas Constitution

Effective Date: May 23, 2007; Election Date November 6, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Student Services

HEALTH-RELATED PROGRAMS

HB 2426 REGULATION OF THE PRACTICE OF NURSING AND THE RENAMING OF THE BOARD OF NURSE EXAMINERS AS THE TEXAS BOARD OF NURSING.

Author: Truitt

Sponsor: Duell

Summary: HB 2426 is the Sunset Review legislation for the Board of Nurse Examiners, which will be renamed the Texas Board of Nursing. Among many other provisions, the legislation includes identical language from HB 3443 related to the Texas hospital-based nursing education partnerships.

HB 2426 creates a new Subchapter EE of the Education Code that authorizes the Coordinating Board to make grants to hospitals partnering with an institution of higher education that offers an initial RN licensure program in support of collaborative instructional models in nursing education. In order to receive grants under this program, a proposed partnership must:

- Meet standards established by the Coordinating Board and the Board of Nurse Examiners;
- Enroll more students at the participating nursing education program;
- Demonstrate that the cost of producing a graduate from the partnership program is comparable to cost of producing a graduate from a traditional nursing education program;
- Provide sufficient clinical placements; and
- Satisfy other requirements as defined by the Coordinating Board.

Programs eligible for funding include those leading to an associate degree in nursing, baccalaureate degree in nursing, a bridge program between the associate and baccalaureate degree in nursing, and other programs leading to a master's degree in nursing with a concentration in education. Unexpended funds for the purpose of this grant program may be used by the Coordinating Board to fund other grants to the Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program, or the Nursing, Allied Health and Other Health-related Education Grant Program. Each partnership that receives funding is required to submit an annual report to the Coordinating Board.

There is no direct appropriation made to fund this program currently. However, the statute allows the receipt of other public or private gifts and grants.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 61.9751-61.9759

Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: Yes. Coordinating Board must report to Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Speaker of the House by December 31 of even-numbered years on status of program

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

(Also see HB 3443 in this section.)

HB 3443**CREATION OF THE TEXAS HOSPITAL-BASED NURSING EDUCATION PARTNERSHIP GRANT PROGRAM.**

Author: Howard, Donna *Sponsor:* West, Royce

Summary: HB 3443 establishes the Texas Hospital-Based Nursing Education Partnership Grant Program. This legislation authorizes the Coordinating Board to make grants to hospitals partnering with an institution of higher education that offers an initial RN licensure program in support of collaborative instructional models in nursing education. In order to receive grants under this program, a proposed partnership must:

- Meet standards established by the Coordinating Board and the Board of Nurse Examiners;
- Enroll more students at the participating nursing education program;
- Demonstrate that the cost of producing a graduate from the partnership program is comparable to cost of producing a graduate from a traditional nursing education program;
- Provide sufficient clinical placements; and
- Satisfy other requirements as defined by the Coordinating Board.

Programs eligible for funding include those leading to an associate degree in nursing, baccalaureate degree in nursing, a bridge program between the associate and baccalaureate degree in nursing, and other programs leading to a master's degree in nursing with a concentration in education. Unexpended funds for the purpose of this grant program may be used by the Coordinating Board to fund other grants to the Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program, or the Nursing, Allied Health and Other Health-related Education Grant Program. Each partnership that receives funding is required to submit an annual report to the Coordinating Board.

There is no direct appropriation made to fund this program currently. However, the statute allows the receipt of other public or private gifts and grants.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 61.9751-61.9759

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes

CB Reporting Requirement: Yes. Coordinating Board must report to Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Speaker of the House by December 31 of even-numbered years on status of program

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

(Also see HB 2426 in this section.)

SB 138

PROMOTING THE RETENTION AND GRADUATION OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PROFESSIONAL NURSING PROGRAMS.

Author: Nelson

Sponsor: King, Susan

Summary: SB 138 authorizes the Coordinating Board to consider and develop methods designed to increase retention and graduation rates at professional nursing programs in the state, to include recommendations on appropriate financial aid measures. The legislation also stipulates that the Coordinating Board may adopt rules to recognize nursing programs that achieve a graduation rate that exceeds 85%.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 61.0901

Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

SB 289

USE OF PROFESSIONAL NURSING SHORTAGE REDUCTION PROGRAM GRANTS TO ENCOURAGE CLINICAL NURSING INSTRUCTION BY PART-TIME FACULTY AT PUBLIC OR PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

Author: Nelson

Sponsor: Morrison

Summary: Current law authorizes grants from the Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program to finance nursing preceptors for clinical instruction rather than rely on formal, full-time faculty. SB 289 authorizes such grants to be used to hire part-time faculty for this role as well.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 61.9623

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

SB 992

USE OF MONEY FROM THE PERMANENT FUND FOR HEALTH-RELATED PROGRAMS TO PROVIDE GRANTS TO NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS.

Author: Nelson

Sponsor: Howard, Donna

Summary: Current law authorizes the use of funding from the permanent fund for health-related programs in order to provide grants for nursing programs dedicated to increasing the number of nursing school graduates in Texas. These funds, generated in part from the tobacco lawsuit, were to cease at the end of the current biennium in September, 2007.

SB 992 effectively extends this program through the next biennium ending in 2011.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 63.202 (f)(g)

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

SB 1601

OPERATION OF THE JOINT ADMISSION MEDICAL PROGRAM AND ADMISSION TO THE PROGRAM.

Author: West, Royce

Sponsor: Brown, Fred

Summary: SB 1601 removes the 10 percent limitation on program openings for private or independent institutions of higher education, allocates one opening each year to each private or independent institution, and allows for up to 30 percent of the openings in certain situations to be allocated to such institutions. The bill updates the eligibility requirements for admission to the program by allowing a student to have enrolled at an institution of higher education, including a community college, and removes the eligibility of nontraditional students from the program. It also modifies the deadline date for submitting applications to the program. SB 1601 expands the discretion of the institutions in selecting a director to implement the program, and it clarifies the scope of the Joint Admission Medical Program Council's ability to accept gifts and raise money.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 51.824(a-b), 51.826, 51.8265(b), 51.829(a) 51.830, 51.831, 51.833(a); Repeals TEC 51.832

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

INSTITUTIONAL / GOVERNANCE CHANGES

HB 389 **EMINENT DOMAIN AUTHORITY AT TEXAS WOMAN'S UNIVERSITY.**

Author: Callegari

Sponsor: Estes

Summary: Texas Woman's University (TWU) currently has two separate statutory references granting it the power of eminent domain. One reference vests such power with the board of regents of the Texas State College for Women of Texas. However, the name of the institution was changed to Texas Woman's University. The Education Code was therefore subsequently amended to grant the board of regents of TWU the same powers as the board of regents of the University of Texas System, including the power of eminent domain.

HB 389 repeals the obsolete reference to Texas State College for Women of Texas in code. The bill also requires the board of TWU to abide by the eminent domain requirements of the Texas Property Code in order to align the board's eminent domain power with current state law.

Code Reference: Repeals Vernon's Civil Statute 52.3264(d); Amends TEC 107.45

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Planning and Accountability

HB 1418 **NAME OF SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY.**

Author: Kolkhorst

Sponsor: Ogden

Summary: Sam Houston State University is a component institution of the Texas State University System. HB 1418 prohibits the board of regents of the Texas State University System from changing the name of the institution.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 96.61

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

HB 2639 **RISK MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS FOR MEMBERS AND ADVISORS OF STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS AT PUBLIC AND PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND TO CERTAIN INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS FOR FRATERNITIES.**

Author: Smithee

Sponsor: Duncan

Summary: HB 2639 requires institutions of higher education to provide a risk management program for members of fraternities and of any other student organization registered at the institution. The bill makes attendance at this risk management seminar mandatory for certain individuals, and authorizes penalties for failure to attend. The legislation also requires the Texas

P-16 INITIATIVES

HB 1748 **ADMINISTRATION OF TEXAS GOVERNOR'S SCHOOLS.**

Author: Morrison

Sponsor: Shapiro

Summary: The Texas Governor's School is an intensive summer educational program for advanced high school students. Current law places administration of Texas Governor's Schools under control of the Texas Education Agency (TEA). However, since the statute authorizes summer educational residency programs offered by junior colleges and institutions of higher education throughout the state, the Coordinating Board has provided administrative oversight via a Memorandum of Understanding with the TEA.

HB 1748 officially transfers authority over the Texas Governor's Schools to the Coordinating Board. The legislation also authorizes the addition of a fine arts component to the curriculum and provides additional eligibility requirements for participants to include consideration of GPA, academic standing, and extracurricular activities.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 29.124; Adds TEC 61.07621

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Participation and Success

HB 2237 **HIGH SCHOOL SUCCESS AND COLLEGE READINESS IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.**

Author: Eissler

Sponsor: Shapiro

Summary: HB 2237 is omnibus public education legislation aimed at college readiness, dropout prevention, and high school success initiatives. Provisions of the legislation include:

- Grants awarded to school districts, regional education centers, and institutions of higher education for the purpose professional development of teachers and administrators;
- Mathematics, science, and technology teacher preparation academies established by the Coordinating Board at institutions of higher education designed to improve instructional skills in these areas by offering a masters-level degree for participants;
- Incorporation of college readiness standards and expectations into the foundation curriculum;
- Development of essential knowledge and skills requirements for college preparatory mathematics, science, social studies, and English language arts;
- Encourage each school district to establish a graduation plan for each student entering 9th grade that promotes college readiness and placement; and
- Establish intensive summer programs at institutions of higher education designed to promote college and workforce readiness for at risk students.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 7.009(a-b), 28.0211(m), 42.158(d); Adds TEC 7.031, 7.062, 21.4511, 21.4541, 21.4551, 21.462, 25.091(b-1), 28.006(c-1), 28.006(g-1), 28.008(d-1), 28.014, 28.0211(l-1), 28.0212(d), 28.0212(e), 29.095-29.098, 29.911, 29.917-29.919, 39.115-39.116, 39 - Subchapter L, 42.158(d-1), Family Code 52.01(e); Repeals TEC 28.0211(l)

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes

- 1) Rules for teacher preparation academies under TEC 21.462
- 2) Rules to implement strategic plan under TEC 39, Subchapter L

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Participation and Success

(Also see Commissions section of this report)

HB 3485

CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROVIDED BY SCHOOL DISTRICTS AND CERTAIN POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS.

Author: King, Susan *Sponsor:* Shapiro

Summary: HB 3485 promotes a career and technical curriculum to fulfill high school and postsecondary education requirements by creating a new review panel for career and technical educational curriculum under the Texas Education Agency. The panel is required by November 1, 2008 to make recommendations to the State Board of Education regarding career and technical education in high school, to include improving content and rigor of such coursework.

HB 3485 also amends the College Credit Program by specifying that the 12 semester credit hours of college credit under the program may be earned through international baccalaureate, advanced placement, dual-credit, or advanced technical credit courses. The legislation encourages each school district to develop a personal graduation plan for each freshman that identifies a course of study that promotes workforce readiness, career placement and advancement, and facilitates the transition from secondary to postsecondary education.

Finally, HB 3485 amends the recommended high school program by authorizing an advanced career or technical course to substitute for a mathematics or science course. The substitution may not occur until the student has completed at least Algebra II for a math substitute or a physics course for a science substitute. A student may not substitute a career or technical course for more than two courses in the recommended curriculum, and the course must be of similar content and rigor as approved by the State Board of Education.

Code Reference: Amends 28.009(a)(c-d), 28.025(b-1); Adds TEC 28.0022, 28.0212(g), 28.025(b-2), 42.154(a-1)

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Participation and Success

SB 282

NOTICE TO PARENTS OF NINTH GRADE STUDENTS REGARDING THE AVAILABILITY OF PROGRAMS UNDER WHICH A STUDENT MAY EARN COLLEGE CREDIT IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

Author: Gallegos

Sponsor: Dutton

Summary: SB 282 requires each school district to notify parents of each student in ninth grade and above of the availability of programs in the district offering college credit, to include advanced placement, dual-credit, college credit, and international baccalaureate programs. The legislation also requires that school counselors provide similar information during their mandated counseling of students in high school.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 28.010

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Participation and Success

SB 1031

ELIMINATION OF TAKS IN FAVOR OF END-OF-COURSE EXAMS.

Author: Shapiro

Sponsor: Eissler

Summary: SB 1031 eliminates the TAKS (Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills) test for secondary-level learning assessment, and replaces it with end-of-course exams for the following courses: Algebra I, Algebra II, geometry, biology, chemistry, physics, English I, English II, English III, world geography, world history, and United States history.

The end-of-course exams authorized in SB 1031 are governed by the following provisions:

- Must account for 15 percent of the final grade for their respective course;
- Be developed in a manner that measures a student's performance under established college readiness standards;
- Include mandatory college readiness assessment questions as developed by the Texas Education Agency in consultation with the Coordinating Board; and
- Each student participating in the recommended or advanced high school program is required to take each of the end-of-course exams mandated by the statute.

SB 1031 also provides for state-funded college preparation assessments for students in the 9th and 10th grades. The state will also fund an additional college preparation assessment in either the 11th or 12th grade. These assessment instruments must be established, valid, reliable, and nationally norm-referenced assessments used to measure a student's progress towards college and workforce readiness.

Finally, SB 1031 establishes a Select Committee on Public School Accountability. The 15-member committee includes the Commissioner of Higher Education, the Commissioner of Education, legislators appointed from both the House and Senate, educators and school administrators, as well as private sector appointees. The committee is required to report their findings and recommendations no later than December 1, 2008.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 18.006(b), 21.006(b), 25.005(b), 29.081(b), 29.087(f), 30.021(e), 39.023, 39.025, 39.034(d), 39.051(b), 39.075(a), 51.3062(q); Adds TEC 39.0233-39.0234, 39.0261, 39.0301-39.0303; Repeals TEC 39.023(j)

Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Participation and Success

SB 1050

ADMINISTRATION OF WORK-STUDY MENTORSHIP PROGRAM.

Author: Zaffirini

Sponsor: Patrick, Diane

Summary: SB 1050 requires the Coordinating Board to develop a work-study mentorship program under which eligible college students are authorized to mentor and counsel other students. The bill also allows students to serve as mentors in GO Centers and in high schools, and authorizes nonprofit organizations to partner with institutions of higher education to pursue the objectives of the program.

Code Reference: TEC 56.079

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Participation and Success

RESEARCH

HB 14 **CANCER RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS**

Author/Sponsor: Keffer Sponsor: Nelson

Summary: Currently, there is no cancer institute in Texas that provides grant money for cancer research. The Texas Cancer Council focuses on cancer prevention programs, but operates on a much smaller scale and does not grant funding for research projects.

HB 14 would abolish the Texas Cancer Council and replace it with a new entity, the Cancer Research Institute of Texas, and move its administrative funding to the Office of the Governor. All powers, duties, obligations, and appropriations of the Council will be transferred to the Cancer Research Institute of Texas. HB 14, in conjunction with HJR 90, would provide for an election to authorize up to \$3 billion in total bonding authority (limited to \$300 million per year) for grants to cancer research and prevention programs.

Code Reference: Amends Health and Safety Code Chapter 86 and Chapter 102, Labor Code 504.017, Transportation Code 504.620

Effective Date: November 6, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

HB 387 **REPEAL OF THE LAW RELATING TO THE TEXAS NATIONAL RESEARCH LABORATORY COMMISSION.**

Author: Callegari Sponsor: Patrick, Dan

Summary: In 1985, the Texas Legislature created the Texas National Research Laboratory Commission (TNRLC) to prepare proposals for the United States Department of Energy (USDOE) for the placement of the proposed Super-conducting Super Collider Accelerator project in Texas. When USDOE selected Texas as the site for the project in 1988, TNRLC's authority was expanded to include the financing, development, and operation of the project. TNRLC was also granted the power of eminent domain in order to acquire property for the construction of the project.

Since then, the United States Congress voted to terminate project funding. As such, the TNRLC was directed to dispose of state assets and the remaining functions of the TNRLC were transferred to the General Land Office.

HB 387 repeals all statutory provisions related to the TNRLC, to include those that impacted sections of the Education Code related to eminent domain authority for the purpose of operating the lab.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 51.604, 65.33
Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

HB 1493 **ESTABLISHMENT AND OPERATION OF A SEVERE STORM RESEARCH AND PLANNING CENTER.**

Author: Bonnen *Sponsor:* Janek

Summary: HB 1493 establishes the Severe Storm Research and Planning Center in Texas. The Center would be administered by a regional planning commission or similar entity defined by Chapter 391 of the Local Government Code that has jurisdiction over the most populous county that borders the Gulf of Mexico. The Center would be utilized to develop plans, programs, and technologies designed to study the impact of and response to hurricanes and severe storms in Texas. The legislation authorizes an advisory committee to provide oversight on the Center, which would include members from Texas A&M University, the University of Houston, Rice University, and other institutions.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 155.001-155.005
Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

HB 2608 **FUNDING FOR APPLIED RESEARCH FOR A CLEAN COAL PROJECT IN TEXAS.**

Author: Hughes *Sponsor:* Eltife

Summary: Current law authorizes the Coordinating Board to dedicate resources, as appropriated, to fund research in advanced technology throughout the state. These funds are distributed as grants to public and private institutions of higher education to conduct applied research in a number of priority research areas to include telecommunications, domestic water use, microelectronics, and other important to economic development and technology growth. New funds for the Advanced Technology Program were vetoed in 2005, and no meaningful funding exists today.

HB 2608 directs the Coordinating Board to provide resources from this program to support applied research dedicated to clean coal technology and electricity generation using coal projects. The legislation requires that specific appropriations under this statute be made for this purpose.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 143.0051
Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

HJR 90

CANCER RESEARCH INSTITUTE OF TEXAS BONDING AUTHORITY.

Author: Keffer

Sponsor: Nelson

Summary: HJR 90 works in conjunction with HB 14 to establish the Cancer Research Institute of Texas. HJR 90 provides for a constitutional amendment election in November 2007 that would authorize the Institute to issue up to \$300 million in general obligation bonds per year, not to exceed a total of \$3 billion over the lifetime of the authorization.

HJR 90 allows bond proceeds to be used by the Institute to fund grants for the purpose of cancer research and prevention programs. Grant recipients must provide funding equal to one-half of the amount of the grant dedicated to the research that was the subject of the grant request.

Code Reference: Adds Sec. 67 to Article III of Texas Constitution

Effective Date: May 29, 2007; Election Date November 6, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

TUITION

HB 86

TUITION REBATES FOR STUDENTS IN THE RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS.

Author: Branch

Sponsor: Van De Putte

Summary: Current law allows for general academic teaching institutions to provide a tuition rebate not to exceed \$1,000 if a student meets certain requirements related to graduating within four years and limiting the amount of attempted coursework. Students who participate in the Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) program often do not qualify for this rebate program because they exceed the maximum semester credit hours allowed under the statute due to additional coursework requirements demanded by the ROTC curriculum.

HB 86 amends the statute by authorizing ROTC graduates to exceed the maximum semester credit hour limit for rebate qualification by not including semester credit hours required to satisfy ROTC requirements. ROTC students would still be subject to time-to-degree requirements, as well as a limitation on semester credit hours directly related to their degrees.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 54.0065(a)

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Student Services

HB 120

STATE FUNDING AND TUITION CHARGED FOR COURSES PROVIDED DURING OFF-PEAK HOURS AT CERTAIN PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

Author: Brown, Fred

Sponsor: Shapiro

Summary: In an effort to encourage full utilization of existing institutional resources, HB 120 authorizes the University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M University and Texas Tech University to offer off-peak courses at reduced designated tuition rates not to exceed twenty-five percent of normal rates for similar coursework. Off-peak courses are defined as those that are scheduled after 6:00 p.m. on a weekday or scheduled on a weekend. The bill requires the Coordinating Board to reimburse these institutions for lost revenue from such reductions via formula funding. It also allows the Coordinating Board to consider additional incentive funding derived from savings associated with the more efficient utilization of facilities to further encourage participation.

HB 120 would only apply if the state appropriated funding for the purpose of this statute for the 2008-09 biennium.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 61.059, 54.061

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Planning and Accountability

HB 1187

VOUCHERS FOR TUITION AND REQUIRED FEES FOR STUDENTS WHO SOUND "TAPS" AT A VETERAN'S FUNERAL.

Author: Morrison

Sponsor: Van De Putte

Summary: HB 1187 requires the Texas Veterans Commission (TVC) to establish a program to issue vouchers to students enrolled in either grades 6 through 12, or students enrolled in postsecondary education, who volunteer to play "Taps" at military funerals in this state. The voucher amount will be \$25 for each military funeral at which the student plays "Taps," and will be used to provide an exemption from tuition and fees at Texas public institutions. The TVC will also encourage private and independent institutions to honor the tuition and fee vouchers.

Code Reference: Adds Government Code 434.0072, TEC 25.087(c), 54.215

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Student Services

HB 1330

PILOT PROGRAM PROVIDING FOR REDUCED UNDERGRADUATE TUITION DURING A SUMMER TERM OR SESSION AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY.

Author: Brown, Fred

Sponsor: Ogden

Summary: Current law requires Texas A&M University to charge a statutory tuition rate of 75% of regular statutory tuition to a student enrolled in a summer session. The statute was only effective if the state specifically appropriated money during the 2006-07 biennium to cover the lost revenue.

HB 1330 amends the statute to restrict a student to utilizing the tuition reduction for one summer session only. The legislation also extends the program by allowing appropriations for the purpose stipulated in statute for the 2008-09 biennium.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 54.0516(d)(e)

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Student Services

SB 309

REQUIREMENT THAT A CAREER SCHOOL OR COLLEGE ADOPT A REFUND POLICY FOR STUDENTS CALLED TO ACTIVE MILITARY SERVICE.

Author: Van de Putte

Sponsor: Garcia

Summary: SB 309 requires career schools and colleges to refund tuition and fees to a student who withdraws from the institution as a result of being called to active military service. The legislation authorizes a student to receive an appropriate final grade or credit if an instructor determines that the student has completed a substantial portion of the course. If a substantial portion of the course has not been completed, a student is authorized to take an incomplete and re-enroll at no additional cost within 12 months of finishing military service.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 132.201(a), 132.2415(b); Adds TEC 132.0611, 132.055(b)(19)
Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Student Services

SB 1231 **LIMITATION ON NUMBER OF ALLOWED DROPPED COURSES.**

Author: Zaffirini *Sponsor:* Morrison

Summary: SB 1231 limits the total number of allowed dropped courses for each student at an institution of higher education to no more than six courses, to include courses dropped at another institution of higher education, with few exceptions. The Coordinating Board is required to develop rules to implement legislation, to include exception policies.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 51.907; Amends TEC 54.006; Repeals TEC 54.006(g)
Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Student Services

SB 1232 **MANNER OF PAYMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION TUITION AND FEES AND TO THE REPAYMENT OF EMERGENCY STUDENT LOANS.**

Author: Zaffirini *Sponsor:* Morrison

Summary: SB 1232 amends the alternatives currently available for how students may pay their tuition and fees. Specifically, the legislation authorizes the governing board of an institution to develop a flexible payment plan for students during an academic semester so long as first payment is made before the start of semester and any balance is paid before the last day of the semester.

SB 1232 also provides for changes to the terms of emergency loans offered by an institution to a student. Such loans must include a written or electronic agreement that includes terms that the loan will be offered at a rate not to exceed 5% for one year, or an origination fee of 1.25% of the loan amount. Additionally, the loan may not exceed the cost of tuition and fees for which the student is enrolled.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 54.007, 56.053(a); Adds TEC 56.053(c)
Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Student Services

TUITION REVENUE BONDS

HB 1775

AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF REVENUE BONDS FOR THE EXPANSION OF SCHOOL OF NURSING FACILITIES AT STEPHEN F. AUSTIN STATE UNIVERSITY.

Author: Christian

Sponsor: Ogden

Summary: HB 1775 authorizes the issuance of tuition revenue bonds, not to exceed \$13 million, to fund an expansion of the Stephen F. Austin School of Nursing, to include the acquisition, purchase, construction, expansion, or renovation of buildings, infrastructure, or facilities for the school.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 55.1768; Amends TEC 61.0572(e), 61.058(b)

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Planning and Accountability

WAIVERS AND EXEMPTIONS

HB 125

TUITION AND FEE EXEMPTIONS FOR THE CHILDREN OF CERTAIN DISABLED MILITARY PERSONNEL.

Author: Delisi

Sponsor: Van De Putte

Summary: The Hinson-Hazlewood Act allows for qualified members of the armed forces of the United States to be exempt from paying tuition and some fees, for up to 150 semester credit hours, while attending a public institution of higher education in Texas. The statute also provides the same exemption to the children of a qualified member of the armed forces who is killed while serving.

HB 125 would extend the Hazlewood tuition and fee exemption to the children of a qualified member of the armed forces who becomes totally disabled for the purpose of employability as defined by the Department of Veteran Affairs. This exemption would apply to those serving in both the federal branches of the armed forces as well as the Texas National Guard and Texas Air National Guard.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 54.203(b)(c)(e)

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Student Services

HB 741

TUITION AND FEE EXEMPTIONS FOR CHILDREN OF CERTAIN VOLUNTEER PEACE OFFICERS WHO ARE KILLED OR DISABLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY.

Author: King, Tracy

Sponsor: Zaffirini

Summary: Under current law, children of full-paid firefighters, full-paid police officers, and volunteer firefighters who have been killed or disabled in the line of duty are exempt from payment of tuition and fees at public institutions of higher education. However, volunteer peace officers are not included in this exemption.

HB 741 expands eligibility for the exemption of tuition and fees at public institutions of higher education to the dependents of volunteer law enforcement officers who have been killed or disabled in the line of duty.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 54.204(a-b)(g-h)

Effective Date: May 25, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Student Services

HB 2702

EXEMPTION FROM TUITION AND FEES FOR ADOPTED STUDENTS.

Author: Truitt

Sponsor: Shapiro

Summary: Current law allows for children adopted from foster care to be exempted from tuition and some fees at institutions of higher education in the State of Texas. The law has been used by parents who adopt children from international sources or do not otherwise qualify for adoption assistance, to seek tuition and fee exemptions for higher education. This loophole has effectively allowed some students to gain financial assistance without meeting the financial need envisioned by the statute.

HB 2702 clarifies language in existing statute to make clear that children who were adopted in a case that did not require adoption assistance as provided by state and federal law do not, in turn, qualify for the tuition and fee exemptions authorized in current statute.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 54.2111(a); Adds Family Code 162.304(b-1)(b-2)(g)
Effective Date: June 13, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Student Services

SB 201

TUITION EXEMPTIONS AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION FOR CERTAIN PROFESSIONAL NURSING PROGRAM PRECEPTORS AND THEIR CHILDREN.

Author: Nelson

Sponsor: Morrison

Summary: Current law allows institutions to offer tuition exemptions to nurse preceptors and their children as an incentive to encourage nurses to provide clinical instruction at undergraduate professional nursing programs. SB 201 amends existing law to extend the period of time a nurse preceptor and/or their children may receive an exemption under this program. SB 201 allows a preceptor to claim a one-semester exemption for tuition up to one year after signing an agreement to serve as a preceptor.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 54.222 (b-c); Adds 54.222(b-1)
Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Student Services

SB 457

ELIGIBILITY FOR EDUCATION BENEFITS OF SURVIVING MINOR CHILDREN OF CERTAIN PUBLIC EMPLOYEES KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY.

Author: Watson

Sponsor: Menendez

Summary: Current law provides that a surviving child of certain public service or law enforcement employees killed in the line of duty is entitled to receive education benefits, such as tuition, housing, and food costs, at an institution of higher education. However, the law applies only to a child who was claimed as a dependent on the employee's federal income tax

return. This provision may inadvertently exclude a divorced or unmarried employee's child from receiving such benefits.

SB 457 authorizes education benefits for a child of a public service or law enforcement employee killed in the line of duty regardless of whether the employee retains legal custody of the child.

Code Reference: Amends Government Code 615.0225(a)
Effective Date: May 21, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Student Services

SB 685

EXEMPTION FROM TUITION AND MANDATORY FEES FOR CERTAIN MEMBERS OF THE TEXAS NATIONAL GUARD.

Author: Van de Putte *Sponsor:* Noriega

Summary: State law currently provides an exemption from tuition at any public institution of higher education for any member serving in the Texas Air National Guard or the Texas Army National Guard under specific conditions. SB 685 extends this exemption to all mandatory fees charged at an institution of higher education.

Code Reference: Amends Government Code 431.090, TEC 54.2155
Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Student Services

SB 1640

EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR MILITARY PERSONNEL.

Author: Williams *Sponsor:* Chisum

Among other provisions, SB 1640 provides that Texas veterans who qualify for the Hazlewood tuition and fee exemption under current law may utilize the exemption together with federal military education benefits so long as the cumulative benefit does not exceed the veteran's cost of tuition and fees for a semester. This change in benefits will apply to students entering the Fall 2007 semester.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 54.203 (e); Adds TEC 54.203(e-1)
Effective Date: August 26, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes.
CB Reporting Requirement: No.
Lead CB Division: Student Services

(Also see Financial Aid in this report.)

VETOED

Below is significant legislation that was vetoed by the Governor on June 15, 2007. For a full explanation on why an individual bill was vetoed, visit the Governor's Veto Proclamation at <http://www.governor.state.tx.us/divisions/press/bills/veto>.

HB 317 **STUDENT ENROLLMENT REQUIRED FOR THE ISSUANCE OF CERTAIN REVENUE BONDS FOR FACILITIES AT TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS.**

Author: Miller

Sponsor: Fraser

Summary: Current law establishes various enrollment thresholds for institutions necessary to trigger the approval and issuance of tuition revenue bonds for major institutional improvements. For example, Texas A&M University-Central Texas and Texas A&M University-San Antonio must both achieve a minimum enrollment equivalent of 1,500 full-time students for one semester in order to trigger the authorization for campus specific tuition revenue bonds to finance capital improvements.

HB 317 would have required the Coordinating Board to conduct a study on the merits of permitting capital improvements at branch campuses, extension centers, system centers, and multi-institutional teaching centers regardless of enrollment levels. The study would have also identified appropriate statutory prerequisites for enrollment for such capital improvements. The Coordinating Board would have reported its recommendations and findings by January 1, 2009.

HB 544 **REDUCED TUITION AND FEES FOR CERTAIN JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICT STUDENTS WHO RESIDE OUTSIDE OF THE DISTRICT.**

Author: Strama

Sponsor: Watson

Summary: Current law prohibits lowering tuition rates for students that live within an independent school district that meets the criteria for the establishment of a junior college district.

HB 544 would have amended the statute to authorize a junior college district to offer reduced tuition rates to students who reside outside the district, but demonstrate financial need.

HB 589 **STUDENT ENROLLMENT REQUIRED FOR TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY-CENTRAL TEXAS TO OPERATE AS A GENERAL ACADEMIC TEACHING INSTITUTION.**

Author: Aycock

Sponsor: Fraser

Summary: Current law authorizes Tarleton State University to operate as a general academic teaching institution, under the name Texas A&M University-Central Texas, when the enrollment equivalent at the school reaches 1,500 students for one semester.

HB 589 would have amended the statute to reduce the enrollment equivalent threshold for stand-alone institutional status when the enrollment equivalent reaches 1,000 students in one semester or one academic year. The legislation would have also required the Coordinating Board to consider all semester credit hours completed during fall, spring, and summer

semesters in the calculation of this threshold. Additionally, the threshold provisions stipulated in the legislation applied to Texas A&M University-San Antonio and UNT-Dallas.

HB 1427 **OPTOMETRY CAREER PROGRAM AT THE UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON.**

Author: Alonzo

Sponsor: Zaffirini

Summary: HB 1427 would have authorized the College of Optometry at the University of Houston to establish and operate a summer optometry career program for junior-level, senior-level, and post-baccalaureate optometry students. The program was authorized to include preparation courses for the Optometry Admissions Test, review of prerequisites for advanced degrees in optometry, and clinical work.

HB 2103 **PILOT PROGRAM TO PROVIDE STUDENT LOAN REPAYMENT ASSISTANCE TO CERTAIN CORRECTIONAL OFFICERS WHO GRADUATE FROM SAM HOUSTON STATE UNIVERSITY.**

Author: Kolkhorst

Sponsor: Ogden

Summary: HB 2103 would have established a pilot program administered by the Coordinating Board to provide loan repayment assistance for correctional officers who graduate from Sam Houston State and continue serving in a facility managed by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). For each year of service at a TDCJ facility after graduation, the Coordinating Board would have provided loan repayment assistance in an amount not to exceed the cost of tuition and fees for up to 30 semester credit hours. Repayment assistance was limited to loans used to finance junior-level and senior-level coursework.

The pilot program was to end after the 2013-2014 academic year. The trust fund established to make repayment assistance was to be abolished on January 1, 2017.

HB 3934 **ESTABLISHMENT OF STUDENT OUTCOMES PILOT PROGRAM AT ALAMO COMMUNITY COLLEGE.**

Author: McClendon

Sponsor: Van De Putte

Summary: Currently, the Texas Education Agency collects statistical data on student performance and accountability for elementary and secondary students in the state. Additionally, the Coordinating Board tracks retention and graduation rates for students in higher education.

HB 3934 would have established a pilot program at Alamo Community College designed to bridge the gap between these existing data sets to study the efficacy of instruction at the college level as well as the transition of students from high school to two-year and four-year institutions. The program was designed to produce a methodology that could be used statewide in an effort to increase college success. The pilot program would have ended in 2017.

SB 1053

ASSESSING QUALITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF ACADEMIC ADVISING SERVICES.

Author: Zaffirini

Sponsor: Aycock

Summary: SB 1053 would have required the Coordinating Board, institutions of higher education, and relevant professionals to develop an instrument to assess student academic advising services.

**SUMMARY OF
ADMINISTRATION / OPERATIONS LEGISLATION**

BY TOPIC

CONTRACTS AND PURCHASING

HB 119 EXEMPTION FROM COMPETITIVE BIDDING FOR CERTAIN PURCHASES.

Author: Brown, Fred *Sponsor:* Ogden

Summary: Current law stipulates that competitive bidding is not required for a purchase by a state agency if the purchase does not exceed \$2,000, or a greater amount set by the Texas Building and Procurement Commission (TBPC).

HB 119 eliminates the ability for the TBPC to set a contract threshold, and instead requires competitive bidding if a purchase exceeds \$5,000, and is made under written contract. The bill also requires a catalog purchase or lease that exceeds \$5,000 or that is made under a written contract, to be based on an evaluation of at least three catalog offers. If three catalog offers are not evaluated, the bill requires the Texas Building and Procurement Commission, or other state agencies, to explain why.

Code Reference: Amends Government Code 2155.132(e), 2157.0611

Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Business Services

HB 3291 PROHIBITION AGAINST THE GOVERNING BOARD OF A PUBLIC INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION ENTERING INTO CERTAIN CONTRACTS RELATING TO PERMANENT IMPROVEMENTS AT THE INSTITUTION.

Author: Otto *Sponsor:* Averitt

Summary: HB 3291 prohibits the board of an institution from entering into a capital improvement contract with a person under which the institution makes contractual payments not reflected in the institutions' financial statement unless the institution is authorized to enter into such a contract by other statute, or was approved by the Coordinating Board.

Code Reference: Adds Education Code 51.785

Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Planning and Accountability

SB 608**RESTRICTIONS ON STATE CONTRACTS WITH CERTAIN CONTRACTORS.***Author:* Ellis*Sponsor:* Callegari

Summary: SB 608 prohibits a state agency from accepting bids or awarding contracts to persons or businesses that have been involved in contract violations or violation of federal law related to services provided during Hurricane Katrina, Hurricane Rita, or other disaster relief efforts. The legislation provides for a five-year moratorium for any bids or contract awards to any entity or individual found to have incurred such violations. The legislation also authorizes the state to immediately terminate a contract if a state agency determines that the vendor is currently ineligible under this statute.

Code Reference: Adds Government Code 2155.006, 2261.053; Amends 2155.077(b)

Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Business Services

SB 1615**COLLECTION OF DELINQUENT OBLIGATIONS OWED TO THE STATE.***Author:* Averitt*Sponsor:* Isett

Summary: SB 1615 provides additional flexibility for state agencies in their efforts to collect delinquent obligations. The legislation provides for a state agency to employ, retain, or contract, subject to approval by the attorney general, and subject to the agency's compliance with applicable guidelines established by the attorney general, an individual or entity to collect a delinquent obligation. SB 1615 also authorizes the Office of the Attorney General to contract with an individual or entity outside the agency to collect a delinquent obligation if the attorney general finds it more economical and in the best interest of the state.

Code Reference: Amends Government Code 2107.003-2107.004, 2254.102(c)

Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Business Services

EMPLOYEES AND EMPLOYEE BENEFITS

HB 590 **STANDARDS OF CONDUCT FOR AND CONFLICTS OF INTEREST OF STATE OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.**

Author: Delisi *Sponsor:* Zaffirini

Summary: HB 590 clarifies and strengthens the ethics standards that currently apply to all state employees. The legislation stipulates that any state employee that violates the ethical standards provided in statute is subject to termination, as well as civil and criminal penalty if the act violated other statutes. Additionally, HB 590 requires the attorney general to develop a model ethics policy to be used by all state agencies. Not later than January 1, 2008, each state agency is required to adopt a written ethics policy and distribute the policy to each employee.

Code Reference: Amends Government Code 572.051
Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: General Counsel

HB 1005 **TIMELY SUBMISSION OF A CLAIM FOR PAYMENT BY A WORKERS' COMPENSATION HEALTH CARE PROVIDER.**

Author: Giddings *Sponsor:* Van De Putte

Summary: Current state law provides that a health care provider forfeit their right to reimbursement for providing care on a workers' compensation injury if the claim was filed later than the 95th day after health care was provided. HB 921 allows for an exception to this provision for cases where a claim was filed within the appropriate time, but was inadvertently filed with the wrong insurance carrier. The legislation also allows for an extension of the prescribed deadline if agreement is reached by all parties or under catastrophic circumstances.

Code Reference: Adds Labor Code 408.0272
Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: Administrative Services

HB 3322 **REGARDING PLAN-TO-PLAN TRANSFER OF CERTAIN ASSETS FROM THE TEXASAVER 457 PLAN ADMINISTERED BY THE EMPLOYEES RETIREMENT SYSTEM OF TEXAS TO A 457 PLAN CREATED BY AN INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**

Author: Truitt *Sponsor:* Watson

Summary: Currently, institutions of higher education are authorized to create and administer a deferred compensation savings plan under Section 457 of the IRS Code. Because of some IRS rules, employees participating in the state's existing 457 plan (TexaSaver) operated by the Employee Retirement System, are unable to transfer assets from the TexaSaver plan to an

institution of higher education's 457 plan. HB 3322 facilitates these plan-to-plan asset-transfers in accordance to federal law.

Code Reference: Adds Government Code 609.515

Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Planning and Accountability

SB 1310

REIMBURSEMENT OF TRAVEL EXPENSES FOR STATE EMPLOYEES.

Author: Wentworth

Sponsor: Rose

Summary: SB 1310 requires state agencies to process any officially undisputed travel reimbursement requests within 45 days of submission. The legislation also requires state agencies to reimburse state employees for reimbursable travel expenses within 30 days of any resolution of a dispute between the agency and employee, in regard to travel expenses.

Code Reference: Adds Government Code 660.019

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Business Services and Support

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

HB 66

POWER MANAGEMENT SOFTWARE FOR STATE AGENCIES.

Author: Leibowitz

Sponsor: Watson

Summary: Commercially available software exists that can reduce power usage of a personal computer and reportedly can save an average of \$20 per computer per year. The state has the potential to save on its energy bill through the use of such power management software. The state currently maintains approximately 109,000 networked personal computers at state agencies and 193,000 at state universities.

HB 66 requires the Department of Information Resources (DIR) to select by competitive bid a power management software program for state computer networks and personal computers. DIR would determine if the software would benefit a state agency and, if so, the agency would acquire and use the software for its networked personal computers.

Code Reference: Adds Government Code 2054.124

Effective Date: September 1, 2007.

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Information Resources

HB 921

SHARING OF INFORMATION AMONG STATE AGENCIES.

Author: Delisi

Sponsor: Ellis, Rodney

Summary: HB 921 creates the Client Information Interchange Standards Committee made up of the Governor, the Comptroller, administrative heads of the Department of Information Resources, Health and Human Services, the Department of Criminal Justice, the Department of Public Safety, the Texas Workforce Commission, the Texas Education Agency, and any other state agency the Committee deems necessary. The purpose of the Committee will be to develop information-sharing standards to be used by all state agencies in their respective information systems. The bill mandates that the standards will be designed to avoid significant custom modifications to existing information systems and attendant expense. The bill mandates that the standards must ensure that personal and confidential information will be protected.

Code Reference: Amends Government Code 2054.096(a); Adds Health and Safety Code 113, Subchapter B

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Information Resources

HB 1788**PLANNING, REPORTING, AND REVIEW OF THE STATE'S INFORMATION RESOURCES.***Author:* Pitts*Sponsor:* Hegar

Summary: HB 1788 consolidates state agencies' information resources planning and analysis and performance reporting. The legislation requires each state agency, no later than December 1 of each odd-numbered year, to complete a review of the operational aspects of the agency's information resources deployment to include:

- An inventory of major information systems;
- An inventory of the agency's major databases and applications;
- Description of the agency's existing and planned telecommunications network configurations;
- Analysis of how information systems, components, databases, applications, and other information resources have been deployed in support of the state strategic plan for information resources and the agency's business objectives, mission, and goals;
- Agency information necessary to support state goals for interoperability and reuse; and
- Confirmation by the agency of compliance with state statutes, rules, and standards relating to information resources.

Code Reference: Amends Government Code 531.0273(a), 2054.007(b), 2054.055(a)(b), 2054.071(a), 2054.092(b), 2054.095, 2054.097, 2054.464, 2056.002(b)(d); Adds 2054.0551, 2054.0965, 2054.1015(e-f); Repeals 2054.096, 2054.156(c)

Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: Yes

Lead CB Division: Information Resources

HB 1789**PLANNING, REPORTING, AND REVIEW OF THE STATE'S INFORMATION RESOURCES.***Author:* Pitts*Sponsor:* Hegar

Summary: HB 1789 defines and requires the use of IT project management practices by all state agencies that are consistent with guidelines developed by the Department of Information Resources (DIR). The legislation also requires that all major information resource projects by a state agency shall be evaluated by the Quality Assurance Team, which includes the Legislative Budget Board, State Auditor's Office, and DIR.

Code Reference: Amends Government Code 2054.055(b), 2054.113 (b-c), 2054.118(b), 2054.1182(a), 2054.128(b), 2054.151(b), 2054.152-2054.154, 2054.156-2054.157, 2054.303(b), 2054.306; Repeals 2054.003(11), 2054.1185, 2054.155, 2055.001(3)(5), 2055.051-2055.060, 2055.101-2055.105, 2055.151-2055.154.

Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Information Resources

SB 687**USE OF TEXASONLINE BY STATE AGENCIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS.***Author:* Shapleigh*Sponsor:* Solomans

Summary: The TexasOnline government internet portal is currently authorized to accept point-of-sale transactions. However, person-to-person transactions are not explicitly authorized in state code for the website.

SB 687 amends the Government Code to allow TexasOnline to accept person-to-person transactions, automated processes that facilitate person-to-person transactions, and personal transactions conducted at an automated kiosk. The legislation also allows TexasOnline to track credit card and cash payments. Finally, SB 687 authorizes the Department of Information Resources to adopt rules to assure consistency between individual agency websites and TexasOnline.

Code Reference: Amends Government Code 2054.1115(a), 2054.261; Adds 2054.252(b-1)

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Business Services

SB 757**PLANNING AND MANAGEMENT OF STATE TELECOMMUNICATIONS SERVICES BY THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION RESOURCES.***Authors:* Hegar*Sponsor:* Callegari

Summary: SB 757 requires the Department of Information Resources (DIR) to establish plans and policies for the system of telecommunications services managed and operated by DIR. The legislation also amends the reporting requirements that are part of the regular reporting on the use of information resources technologies by state government. Specifically, SB 757 requires the Department to assess what progress is being made towards accomplishing the goals of the state telecommunications plan.

SB 757 also adds provisions to the state strategic plan for information resources management to include identifying best practices to assist state agencies in adopting methods for design, deployment, and management of telecommunications services.

Code Reference: Adds Government Code 2054.054(g); Amends Government Code 2054.055, 2054.092, 2054.203(a-d)(g), 2054.204-2054.205, 2054.207

Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: Yes

Lead CB Division: Information Resources

OPEN MEETINGS / RECORDS

HB 1497 **CONSEQUENCES OF THE FAILURE BY A PERSON REQUESTING INFORMATION UNDER THE PUBLIC INFORMATION LAW TO TIMELY RESPOND TO CERTAIN WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS FROM A GOVERNMENTAL BODY.**

Author: Van Arsdale *Sponsor:* Harris

Summary: HB 1497 provides that a governmental body may determine that a non-response to written communication from the governmental body to a requestor for information under the public information law, is a formal withdrawal of the request after 61 days. The governing body is authorized to explain the deadline, and consequences of failing to meet the deadline, in the written communication provided to the requestor.

Code Reference: Adds Government Code 552.222(d-f)
Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: General Counsel

HB 2564 **AUTHORITY OF A GOVERNMENTAL BODY TO REQUIRE PAYMENT OF A CHARGE BEFORE COMPLYING WITH REQUEST FOR PUBLIC INFORMATION.**

Author: Hancock *Sponsor:* Wentworth

Summary: HB 2564 authorizes a governmental body to establish a reasonable time limit, no less than 36 hours in a 12-month period, on the amount of time that personnel are required to spend producing information in compliance with a request for public information. The legislation requires that a governmental body track the time needed to respond to an open records request and provide, in a written notice, an estimate of the time necessary to execute specific requests, and any estimates on costs that are authorized under the statute.

Code Reference: Adds Government Code 552.275
Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: General Counsel

SB 592 **SPECIAL NOTICE TO THE NEWS MEDIA OF THE MEETING OF A GOVERNMENTAL BODY IN CERTAIN SITUATIONS UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW.**

Author: Wentworth *Sponsor:* Parker

Summary: SB 592 updates open meeting requirements related to notifying the news media of emergency meetings of a governmental body by authorizing the use of facsimile or email for such notices. The legislation also authorizes the use of facsimile and email for notices to the news media by school districts for public meetings.

Code Reference: Amends Government Code 551.047(c), 551.052(b)
Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: General Counsel

SB 1046

PROVISION OF NOTICE TO INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION OF MEETINGS OF THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD AND TO TELEPHONE CONFERENCE MEETINGS OF THE BOARD.

Author: Wentworth *Sponsor:* Morrison

Summary: Current law governing administrative procedure for the Coordinating Board requires that the Board provide 30 days notice prior to an official meeting. SB 1046 amends the code to allow the Coordinating Board to provide notice in seven days, as currently allowed for by other state agencies. SB 1046 also authorizes, under specific circumstances, the Coordinating Board to conduct meetings by teleconference as currently allowed for by governing boards of institutions of higher education.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 61.025 (c)(e). Government Code 551.121(b)(c)(e), 551.129.
Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: General Counsel

SB 1306

ATTENDANCE BY A QUORUM OF A GOVERNMENTAL BODY AT CERTAIN EVENTS UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS LAW.

Author: Wentworth *Sponsor:* Goolsby

Summary: Current law defines very specific situations that fall within the definition of “meeting” under the Texas Open Meetings Act, thereby triggering public notice and other provisions related to open meetings of a governmental body. The law also stipulates exceptions to the definition of “meeting,” particularly related to social functions that have no relation to official public business.

SB 1306 adds “ceremonial events” and “press conferences” to the authorized exceptions to meetings under the Texas Open Meetings Act. This clarification provides that no formal public action may be taken at these events, in conformance with the current requirements of the Texas Open Meetings Act.

Code Reference: Amends Government Code 551.001(4)
Effective Date: May 22, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No
CB Reporting Requirement: No
Lead CB Division: General Counsel

REPORTS AND STUDIES

SB 139 **STUDY ON IMPROVING THE CURRICULA OF PROFESSIONAL AND VOCATION NURSING EDUCATION PROGRAMS.**

Author: Nelson

Sponsor: Kolkhorst

Summary: SB 139 mandates the Coordinating Board, in consultation with the Board of Nurse Examiners, to identify methods to improve the curricula and instruction of professional and vocational nursing programs. The Coordinating Board is required to report their findings to the Governor and Legislature by December 31, 2008.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 61.0662

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: Yes. Report due to Governor and Legislature no later than December 31, 2008

Lead CB Division:

SB 140 **FEASIBILITY STUDY OF PROVIDING IMMUNIZATIONS TO CERTAIN STUDENTS ENROLLED IN HEALTH PROFESSIONAL DEGREE PROGRAMS.**

Author: Nelson

Sponsor: Kolkhorst

Summary: SB 140 requires the Coordinating Board and Department of State Health Services to conduct a joint study on the feasibility of providing immunizations without charge, or at a discount, to economically disadvantaged students enrolled in health professional degree programs in the state. A joint report on the findings is due to the Legislature by January 15, 2009.

Code Reference: n/a

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: Yes. Report due to the Legislature no later than January 15, 2009.

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

SB 141 **FEASIBILITY STUDY REGARDING JOINT HEALTH SCIENCE COURSES AT PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.**

Author: Nelson

Sponsor: Kolkhorst

Summary: SB 141 authorizes the Coordinating Board, members of the Health Professions Council, and representatives of certain institutions of higher education to study the feasibility of health professions' students taking combined health science classes.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 61.0661
Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: Yes. If the Coordinating Board conducts a study, a report is due to the Governor and Legislature no later than September 30, 2008.

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

SB 649

JOINT PARTNERSHIP BETWEEN TEXAS TECH UNIVERSITY HEALTH SCIENCES CENTER AND UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS AT EL PASO.

Author: Shapleigh

Sponsor: Morrison

Summary: SB 649 allows the Coordinating Board to study and submit a written report to the Legislature analyzing the ability of institutions of higher education to enter into joint partnerships involving the joint use of faculty and facilities and joint degree programs. This legislation is permissive, and if a study is conducted, a report is due to the Legislature not later than January 1, 2009.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 61.0661
Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: Yes. If Coordinating Board conducts a study, the report is due to the Legislature not later than January 1, 2009.

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

MISCELLANEOUS

HB 4 **WATER CONSERVATION.**

Author: Puente

Sponsor: Averitt

Summary: HB 4 provides measures to enhance water conservation in the State of Texas. The legislation authorizes the Texas Water Development Board to create a Water Conservation Advisory Council designed to review and develop water conservations strategies for the state. The council will consist of 23 members representing state agencies, environmental groups, agricultural groups, as well as higher education.

HB 4 amends the Education Code by adding a section that requires the Coordinating Board to encourage institutions of higher education to develop rainwater harvesting curriculum and instruction. The legislation would also mandate that any state building with a roof in excess of 10,000 square feet, to include buildings at institutions of higher education, incorporate rainwater harvesting systems for indoor non-potable use and landscape watering.

Code Reference: Adds Water Code 1.004, 10.001-10.011, 13.146, 16.401-16.402, TEC 51.969, Local Government Code 401.006; Amends Government Code 447.004, Health and Safety Code 341.042, Occupation Code 1903.053, Tax Code 151.355, Water Code 1.003, 11.002, 11.0235(b), 15.102(b)

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Planning and Accountability

HB 85 **CREDIT CARD MARKETING ACTIVITIES AT POSTSECONDARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS.**

Author: Branch

Sponsor: Van De Putte

Summary: HB 85 prohibits credit card marketing firms from operating outside times and locations prescribed by an institution's governing board. HB 85 also requires that credit counseling and financial education materials be provided during new student orientation at any institution that has designated an on-campus location for credit card marketing. HB 85 provides a civil penalty for persons who intentionally violate provisions of the statute.

Code Reference: Adds Business and Commerce 35.131–35.137

Effective Date: September 1, 2007.

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

HB 208

ELIGIBILITY OF STUDENTS ENROLLED IN JOINT CREDIT OR CONCURRENT ENROLLMENT PROGRAMS FOR EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES AND UNIVERSITY INTERSCHOLASTIC LEAGUE COMPETITIONS.

Author: Flores

Sponsor: Lucio

Summary: HB 208 provides that a student cannot be considered ineligible to participate in an extracurricular activity of a University Interscholastic League competition if they are enrolled in courses offered for joint high school and college credit, regardless of where the course is offered.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 33.087

Effective Date: May 24, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Student Services

HB 462

AUTHORITY OF CERTAIN MUNICIPALITIES TO COLLECT AN INFRASTRUCTURE FEE FROM CERTAIN GOVERNMENTAL ENTITIES.

Author: Miller

Sponsor: Fraser

Summary: The 78th Legislature struck provisions in the Local Government Code that required institutions of higher education to pay storm water drainage fees to municipalities. HB 462 authorizes a single municipality impacted by the Bosque River and with a population less than 25,000 to collect a storm water related fee from a state agency or institution of higher education.

Code Reference: Amends Local Government. Code 430.003

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Planning and Accountability

SB 11

HOMELAND SECURITY AND PROTECTION OF THE PUBLIC, INCLUDING PROTECTIONS AGAINST HUMAN TRAFFICKING.

Author: Carona

Sponsor: Corte

Summary: SB 11 is the omnibus Texas homeland security legislation. Among other provisions, the legislation amends the Education Code to add the Commissioner of Higher Education to the Texas School Safety Center. The Center provides a central repository for school safety information, including research, training, and technical assistance related to successful school safety programs and efforts to reduce youth violence in Texas

Code Reference: Amends TEC 37.203(a)

Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Academic Affairs and Research

SB 276**SELECTION PROCESS FOR STUDENT MEMBERS OF THE BOARD OF REGENTS OF A UNIVERSITY OR UNIVERSITY SYSTEM.***Author:* Wentworth*Sponsor:* Rose

Summary: Current law authorizes the appointment of a student representative to a board of regents of a university or university system. SB 276 amends the selection process and implementation in the following ways:

- Realigns selection process deadlines and appointment dates with academic calendar year;
- Eliminates the provision requiring the deletion of a student's name from an application for appointment before consideration by a university chancellor or president;
- Requires minimum academic performance while in office, to include maintenance of a 2.5 grade point average; and
- Authorizes that a student regent receive reimbursement for travel expenses incurred while serving in their official capacity.

Code Reference: Amends TEC 51.355(c-d), 51.356(d-e); Adds 51.355(d-1),(h-i), 51.356(e-1), (h-i)

Effective Date: May 23, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Office of the Commissioner; General Counsel

SB 300**DURATION OF JUDGMENT LIENS IN FAVOR OF THE STATE.***Author:* Ellis*Sponsor:* Paxton

Summary: Current law provides that a judgment lien becomes dormant if not revived every 10 years. A judgment lien may be renewed by the issuance of a writ of execution. However, the time and cost associated with the renewal process can be prohibitive.

SB 300 prevents a judgment in favor of the state or a state agency (including an institution of higher education) from becoming dormant, and extends the life of a judgment lien from 10 to 20 years.

Code Reference: Amends Property Code 52.006

Effective Date: April 23, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: General Counsel

SB 469

COORDINATING BOARD CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION FOR CERTAIN GIFTS OR DONATIONS TO PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

Author: Brimer

Sponsor: Patrick, Diane

Summary: SB 469 requires the Coordinating Board to produce a certificate of recognition to any person who contributes \$10,000 or an equivalent in gifts, within one year's time, to any institution of higher education for any purpose, program, or activity of the institution. The institution of higher education is to submit a written request to the Coordinating Board upon receipt, and if the individual qualifies, the Coordinating Board is to produce the certificate of recognition to be presented by the institution of higher education.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 61.0901

Effective Date: June 15, 2007

CB Rulemaking: No

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Office of Strategic Alliances

SB 1007

STUDENT REPRESENTATION ON THE TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD.

Author: West

Sponsor: Giddings

Summary: SB 1007 authorizes the Governor to appoint a non-voting, student representative to the Coordinating Board. SB 1007 also requires the Coordinating Board to appoint no less than four student representatives each year to various advisory committees, such as the Financial Aid Advisory Committee, and the Common Application Advisory Committee. The Coordinating Board is required to develop applications for all appointments as well as publish annual announcements of vacancies.

Code Reference: Adds TEC 61.0225, 61.071

Effective Date: September 1, 2007

CB Rulemaking: Yes

CB Reporting Requirement: No

Lead CB Division: Office of Strategic Alliances; General Counsel

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