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H.B. No. 33

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to measures to facilitate the award of postsecondary course credit leading to workforce credentialing based on military experience, education, and training.

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

SECTION 1. Section 51.3041(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) An institution of higher education shall consider, in determining whether to award to a student course credit toward a degree or certificate offered by the institution for the student's completion of certain military training:

(1) any official military record presented to the institution by the student that:

(A) describes the substance of the training completed by the student; and

(B) verifies the student's successful completion of that training; and

(2) whether the substance of that training satisfies the purpose of the course for which the student seeks credit as described in the institution's course catalog.

SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 132, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 132.026 to read as follows:

Sec. 132.026. MEASURES TO FACILITATE AWARD OF COURSE CREDIT FOR MILITARY SERVICE. (a) The commission shall evaluate programs of study or courses offered by career schools or colleges leading to

1 industry-based certifications or other workforce credentials to
2 identify programs or courses for which skills obtained through
3 military experience, education, and training frequently align.

4 (b) The commission shall publish on its Internet website a
5 list of any programs of study or courses identified by the
6 commission under this section and the relevant military experience,
7 education, or training that may align with those programs or
8 courses.

9 SECTION 3. Section 132.055, Education Code, is amended by
10 adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

11 (c) In determining whether to approve a career school or
12 college that offers a program of study or course listed on the
13 commission's Internet website under Section 132.026(b), in
14 addition to the criteria prescribed by Subsection (b) of this
15 section, the commission shall require that the career school or
16 college provide credit to a student toward any course time required
17 for the program of study or course for skills obtained by the
18 student through military experience, education, or training,
19 unless the school or college can demonstrate that those skills are
20 not appropriately aligned with the program of study or course.

21 SECTION 4. Section 302.0031, Labor Code, is amended by
22 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (i) to read as
23 follows:

24 (a) In this section:

25 (1) "Career school or college" has the meaning
26 assigned by Section 132.001, Education Code.

27 (2) "Institution[~~,"institution~~] of higher education"

1 has the meaning assigned by Section 61.003, Education Code.

2 (i) Under the program, the commission shall identify,
3 develop, and support methods to facilitate the award of course time
4 credit by career schools or colleges or other private or nonprofit
5 entities providing programs of study or courses of instruction
6 leading to industry certifications or other workforce credentials
7 to veterans and military servicemembers for military experience,
8 education, or training obtained during military service for
9 programs of study or courses of instruction offered by those
10 schools, colleges, or other entities for which skills obtained
11 through military experience, education, and training align.

12 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.