

By: Dutton

H.B. No. 981

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to a study by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating  
3 Board on the feasibility of establishing a divinity program at  
4 Texas Southern University.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 61.06695 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 61.06695. STUDY ON DIVINITY PROGRAM AT TEXAS SOUTHERN  
9 UNIVERSITY. (a) The board shall conduct a study on the feasibility  
10 of establishing a divinity program that offers bachelor's,  
11 master's, and doctoral degrees at Texas Southern University.

12 (b) Not later than December 1, 2022, the board shall submit  
13 to each legislative standing committee with primary jurisdiction  
14 over higher education and the board of regents of Texas Southern  
15 University a report on the results of the study.

16 (c) This section expires September 1, 2023.

17 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.