

1-1 By: Creighton, et al. S.B. No. 1295
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 9, 2021; March 18, 2021, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Higher Education;
 1-4 April 19, 2021, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; April 19, 2021,
 1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1295 By: Creighton

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to financial support and incentives for comprehensive
 1-22 regional universities.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Section 62.003(1), Education Code, is amended to
 1-25 read as follows:

1-26 (1) Except as otherwise provided by Subchapters C, D,
 1-27 E, F, ~~and~~ G, and I, "eligible institution" means the eligible
 1-28 agencies and institutions of higher education listed in Article
 1-29 VII, Section 17(b), of the Constitution of Texas, and any
 1-30 institution or agency of higher education that is later made
 1-31 eligible to participate in the disbursement of funds pursuant to
 1-32 Article VII, Section 17(c), of the Constitution of Texas.

1-33 SECTION 2. Chapter 62, Education Code, is amended by adding
 1-34 Subchapter I to read as follows:

1-35 SUBCHAPTER I. COMPREHENSIVE REGIONAL UNIVERSITY FUNDING

1-36 Sec. 62.181. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

1-37 (1) "At-risk student" means an undergraduate student
 1-38 of an eligible institution:

1-39 (A) whose score on the SAT or ACT assessment test
 1-40 is less than the national mean score of students' scores on that
 1-41 test; or

1-42 (B) who has previously received a grant under the
 1-43 federal Pell Grant program.

1-44 (2) "Eligible institution" means an institution of
 1-45 higher education designated as a comprehensive university,
 1-46 doctoral university, or master's university under the coordinating
 1-47 board's accountability system.

1-48 Sec. 62.182. PURPOSE. The purpose of this subchapter is to
 1-49 provide funding to each eligible institution to support the
 1-50 institution in serving at-risk students, helping meet the state's
 1-51 workforce needs, and enhancing the institution's regional economy.

1-52 Sec. 62.183. FUNDING. (a) Subject to Subsection (b), for
 1-53 each state fiscal biennium, an eligible institution is entitled to
 1-54 receive an amount equal to the sum of:

1-55 (1) a base amount of \$500,000 or a greater base amount
 1-56 provided by appropriation; and

1-57 (2) the product of \$1,000 or a greater amount provided
 1-58 by appropriation and the average number of at-risk students awarded
 1-59 a degree by the institution each year during the three state fiscal
 1-60 years preceding the biennium.

2-1 (b) An alternative method of allocating funding under this
2-2 section may be provided by appropriation.

2-3 Sec. 62.184. STUDY AND REPORT. (a) The coordinating board,
2-4 in consultation with a representative group of eligible
2-5 institutions, shall conduct a study on the method of funding
2-6 provided under Section 62.183 to determine that method's
2-7 effectiveness in:

2-8 (1) allocating state funds fairly and equitably; and
2-9 (2) promoting student success at eligible
2-10 institutions.

2-11 (b) Not later than September 1, 2022, the coordinating board
2-12 shall submit to the governor and the Legislative Budget Board a
2-13 report on the results of the study and any recommendations for
2-14 legislative or other action.

2-15 (c) This section expires September 1, 2023.

2-16 SECTION 3. An eligible institution is entitled to receive
2-17 funding under Section 62.183, Education Code, as added by this Act,
2-18 beginning with the first state fiscal biennium for which money is
2-19 appropriated for that purpose.

2-20 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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