

By: Virdell

H.B. No. 1381

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to contracts with and the acceptance of money from certain foreign entities by public institutions of higher education.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter 2, Chapter 51, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 51.985 to read as follows:

Sec. 51.985. PROHIBITION ON CONTRACTS WITH OR ACCEPTANCE OF MONEY FROM CERTAIN FOREIGN ENTITIES. (a) In this section:

(1) "Designated country or entity" means a country or entity designated as a country of particular concern, a special watch list country, or an entity of particular concern in the United States secretary of state's most recent designations under the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (22 U.S.C. Section 6401 et seq.).

(2) "Institution of higher education" has the meaning assigned by Section 61.003.

(b) Notwithstanding any other law, an institution of higher education may not enter into a contract with or accept a gift, grant, or donation from a designated country or entity.

(c) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board may adopt rules as necessary to implement this section.

SECTION 2. Section 51.985, Education Code, as added by this Act, applies only to a contract entered into on or after the effective date of this Act. A contract entered into before that

1 date is governed by the law in effect on the date the contract was
2 entered into, and the former law is continued in effect for that
3 purpose.

4 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
6 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
8 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.