

By: Giddings

H.B. No. 757

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the continuation of the higher education assistance  
3 pilot program.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 61.088, Education Code, as added by  
6 Chapter 795, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001,  
7 is renumbered as Section 61.0901, Education Code, and amended to  
8 read as follows:

9 Sec. 61.0901 [~~61.088~~]. HIGHER EDUCATION ASSISTANCE [~~PILOT~~]  
10 PROGRAM. (a) The board shall administer and coordinate the Higher  
11 Education Assistance [~~Pilot~~] Program to:

12 (1) provide to prospective students in [~~three~~] areas  
13 of this state with the highest number of students who do not attend  
14 institutions of higher education, as determined by the board,  
15 information related to enrollment in public or private or  
16 independent institutions of higher education, including admissions  
17 and financial aid information; and

18 (2) assist those prospective students in completing  
19 applications related to enrollment in those institutions,  
20 including admissions and financial aid applications.

21 (b) The board shall provide the information and assistance  
22 required by this section at least twice each year at one or more  
23 appropriate locations in each area served by the [~~pilot~~] program.

24 (c) The board may coordinate with an institution of higher

1 education or other entity to provide the information and assistance  
2 required by this section in each area served by the [~~pilot~~] program.

3 (d) Not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year  
4 [~~August 31, 2003~~], the board shall submit to the legislature a  
5 report on the effectiveness of the [~~pilot~~] program[~~, including~~  
6 ~~recommendations on whether to implement the program on a statewide~~  
7 ~~basis~~].

8 [~~(e) The pilot program ends and this section expires August~~  
9 ~~31, 2003.~~]

10 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
11 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
12 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
13 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
14 Act takes effect September 1, 2003, and has the effect of  
15 reenacting, amending, and renumbering Section 61.088, Education  
16 Code, as added by Chapter 795, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular  
17 Session, 2001.