

BILL ANALYSIS

H.B. 776
By: Howard
Higher Education
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

This bill would expand the Wharton County Junior College (WCJC) service area to include the incorporated area and extraterritorial jurisdiction of the city of Sugar Land.

Junior college district service areas are defined as the territory, in which the junior college district provides service, that lies outside the boundaries of the junior college taxing district. A junior college does not have taxing authority outside its taxing district. The expansion of WCJC's Service area would not impose its tax on Sugar Land taxpayers. However, it would allow the residents of Sugar Land to utilize WCJC services by paying the out-of-district tuition.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Expands the Wharton County Junior College service area to include the incorporated area and extraterritorial jurisdiction of the City of Sugar Land located in Fort Bend County. Makes conforming changes.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies beginning with the 2005 fall semester.

SECTION 3. Effective date.

EFFECTIVE DATE

This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2005.