

By: West

S.B. No. 502

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to common undergraduate admission application forms for public institutions of higher education in this state.

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

SECTION 1. Section 51.761, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 51.761. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter, "board," "general academic teaching institution," "governing board," "institution of higher education," "public technical institute," and "university system" have the meanings assigned by Section 61.003 of this code.

SECTION 2. Sections 51.762(a), (b), and (f), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) The board, with the assistance of an advisory committee composed of representatives of general academic teaching institutions, junior college districts, and public technical institutes, and with the consultation of all ~~[affected general academic teaching]~~ institutions of higher education that admit freshman-level students, shall adopt by rule a common admission application form for use by a person seeking admission as a freshman student to an [a general academic teaching] institution of higher education. In addition to information required to determine the residency status of the applicant and information relating to the use of the form at each institution, the board shall include on the

form information that the board considers appropriate.

(b) The board, with the assistance of an advisory committee composed of representatives of general academic teaching institutions, junior college districts, and public technical institutes, and with the consultation of all ~~[affected general academic teaching]~~ institutions of higher education that admit undergraduate transfer students, may adopt by rule a common admission application form for use by a person seeking admission as an undergraduate transfer student to an ~~[a general academic teaching]~~ institution of higher education. In addition to information required to determine the residency status of the applicant and information relating to the use of the form at each institution, the board shall include on the form information that the board considers appropriate.

(f) An applicant may file, and each ~~[general academic teaching]~~ institution of higher education shall accept, an application for admission as an entering ~~[a]~~ freshman or undergraduate transfer student that uses ~~[application using]~~ a form adopted under this section. The form used for the application may be in either an electronic or printed format. An ~~[A general academic teaching]~~ institution of higher education is not prohibited from requiring an applicant to submit additional information within a reasonable time after the institution has received an application using a form adopted under this section.

SECTION 3. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall adopt a common freshman admission application form under Section 51.762, Education Code, as amended by this Act, not later

1 than September 1, 2006. An institution of higher education must
2 accept freshman applications using that common admission
3 application form beginning with applicants for admission for the
4 2007-2008 academic year.

5 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.