

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 1530

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to a statewide strategic plan for the support and
3 promotion of technology research in this state.

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

5 SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS. In this Act:

6 (1) "Committee" means the technology research
7 planning committee.

8 (2) "Institution of higher education" has the meaning
9 assigned by Section 61.003, Education Code.

10 SECTION 2. COMPOSITION OF TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH PLANNING
11 COMMITTEE. (a) The technology research planning committee is
12 composed of 18 members as follows:

13 (1) four members of the senate appointed by the
14 lieutenant governor;

15 (2) four members of the house of representatives
16 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; and

17 (3) 10 members appointed by the governor as follows:

18 (A) one representative from each of the
19 following:

20 (i) The University of Texas System;

21 (ii) The Texas A&M University System;

22 (iii) the Texas Tech University System;

23 (iv) the University of Houston System;

24 (v) the University of North Texas System;

1 and

2 (vi) the Texas State University System;

3 (B) two experts in the field of ethics as applied
4 to technology issues;

5 (C) one representative of a regional or state
6 advocacy group specializing in technology issues; and

7 (D) one representative of the technology
8 industry.

9 (b) A member of the committee serves at the pleasure of the
10 appointing official. In making appointments to the committee, the
11 appointing officials shall attempt to appoint persons who reflect
12 the gender and ethnic composition of the population of the state and
13 who represent the geographic regions of the state.

14 (c) The members of the committee shall select a presiding
15 officer and other officers from among the members and shall meet at
16 the call of the presiding officer.

17 SECTION 3. POWERS AND DUTIES OF TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH
18 PLANNING COMMITTEE. (a) The committee shall develop and adopt a
19 statewide strategic plan for the support and promotion of
20 technology research in this state, including research in the
21 following areas:

22 (1) stem cells and other areas of biotechnology;

23 (2) nanotechnology; and

24 (3) other emerging technologies considered
25 appropriate for incorporation in the plan by the committee.

26 (b) In adopting the plan, the committee shall consider and
27 determine:

1 (1) the amount of money available for technology
2 research in this state and the amount of money required to fund
3 technology research comparable in quantity and quality to that
4 conducted or funded in other states; and

5 (2) the types of technology research receiving
6 financial and other support from this state and the types of
7 technology research that should receive state support.

8 (c) The committee may request reports and other information
9 from institutions of higher education, the Texas Higher Education
10 Coordinating Board, and other entities as necessary to carry out
11 this Act.

12 SECTION 4. REPORT; RECOMMENDATIONS. (a) The committee
13 shall submit to the presiding officer of each house of the
14 legislature a report summarizing the committee's activities and
15 determinations performed as required by this Act.

16 (b) The report must include the statewide strategic plan
17 adopted by the committee and any recommendations for legislative
18 action the committee considers necessary to implement the statewide
19 plan.

20 SECTION 5. DEADLINES. (a) Not later than November 1, 2005,
21 the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house
22 of representatives shall make the appointments required by this
23 Act.

24 (b) Not later than November 1, 2006, the committee shall
25 adopt the statewide strategic plan required by this Act.

26 (c) Not later than December 1, 2006, the committee shall
27 submit the report required by this Act to the appropriate

1 officials.

2 SECTION 6. EXPIRATION. This Act expires January 1, 2007.

3 SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect
4 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members
5 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas
6 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for
7 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2005.