

BILL ANALYSIS

S.B. 1053
By: Zaffirini
Higher Education
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Currently, there is no statutory assessment system for academic advising services, although some departments and institutions perform assessments not required by law. It is important to develop an objective system that can fairly assess and evaluate academic advising services to prevent poor advice.

As proposed, S.B. 1053 requires the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, institutions of higher education, and relevant professionals to develop an instrument to assess student academic advising services.

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: Amends Subchapter C, Chapter 61 of the Education Code, by adding Section 61.071, relating to an academic advising assessment. Requires the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) to establish a method for assessing the quality and effectiveness of academic advising services available to students at each institution of higher education (institution).

Requires THECB to consult with representatives from institutions, including academic advisors and other professionals the THECB considers appropriate in establishing the method of assessment. Requires the method of assessment established under this section to include certain measures. Requires THECB to establish a method of assessment as required by this section not later than September 1, 2008. Provides that this subsection expires October 1, 2008.

SECTION 2: Effective date.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Upon passage, or, if the Act does not receive the necessary vote, the Act takes effect September 1, 2007.