

By: Dukes

H.B. No. 1635

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to agreements for the automatic admission to public
3 institutions of higher education of certain undergraduate transfer
4 students and to reports by those institutions of information
5 relating to the transfer students.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 51.801, Education Code, is amended to
8 read as follows:

9 Sec. 51.801. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter, "general
10 academic teaching institution," "governing board," "medical and
11 dental unit," "public junior college," "public state college,"
12 "public technical institute," and "university system" have the
13 meanings assigned by Section 61.003.

14 SECTION 2. Subchapter U, Chapter 51, Education Code, is
15 amended by adding Section 51.806 to read as follows:

16 Sec. 51.806. AUTOMATIC ADMISSION AGREEMENTS: UNDERGRADUATE
17 TRANSFER STUDENTS FROM TWO-YEAR INSTITUTIONS. (a) The governing
18 board of a general academic teaching institution shall enter into a
19 written agreement with at least one public junior college, public
20 state college, or public technical institute under which the
21 general academic teaching institution is required to admit as an
22 undergraduate transfer student each applicant for admission to the
23 institution:

24 (1) who, in the academic year for which the applicant

1 is applying for admission under this section or in the preceding
2 academic year, was enrolled at that public junior college, public
3 state college, or public technical institute; and

4 (2) who has completed, exclusively at that college or
5 institute or at that college or institute and one or more other
6 colleges or institutes each of which is a party to an agreement with
7 the same governing board under this section, not fewer than 24
8 semester credit hours in the core curriculum with a cumulative
9 grade point average of at least a 3.0 on a four-point scale or the
10 equivalent.

11 (b) In an agreement under this section, the governing board
12 of the general academic teaching institution may limit the
13 admission of applicants under this section to a particular program
14 or school within the institution.

15 (c) An agreement under this section may be modified annually
16 on the request of either party to the agreement. The modification
17 may take effect only for an academic year occurring after the second
18 anniversary of the date the agreement is modified.

19 (d) To qualify for admission under this section, an
20 applicant to a general academic teaching institution must submit an
21 application before the expiration of any application filing
22 deadline established by the institution.

23 (e) After admitting an applicant under this section, the
24 general academic teaching institution may review the applicant's
25 record and any other factor the institution considers appropriate
26 to determine whether the applicant may require additional
27 preparation for college-level work or would benefit from inclusion

1 in a retention program. The institution may require a student so
2 identified to enroll during the summer immediately after the
3 student is admitted under this section to participate in
4 appropriate enrichment courses and orientation programs. This
5 section does not prohibit a student who is not determined to need
6 additional preparation for college-level work from enrolling, if
7 the student chooses, during the summer immediately after the
8 student is admitted under this section.

9 (f) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section,
10 admission to a specific general academic teaching institution is
11 contingent on the availability of space within the institution for
12 the admission of additional students. The governing board of the
13 general academic teaching institution shall make a good faith
14 effort to provide the necessary space for students admitted under
15 this section.

16 SECTION 3. Section 51.4032, Education Code, as added by
17 Chapter 694, Acts of the 79th Legislature, Regular Session, 2005,
18 is amended to read as follows:

19 Sec. 51.4032. ANNUAL REPORT OF PARTICIPATION IN HIGHER
20 EDUCATION. (a) Not later than July 31 of each year and in the form
21 prescribed by the coordinating board, each general academic
22 teaching institution and medical and dental unit as defined in
23 Section 61.003 shall provide to the Texas Higher Education
24 Coordinating Board a report describing the composition of the
25 institution's entering class of students, including transfer
26 students. The report must include a demographic breakdown of the
27 class, including a breakdown by race, ethnicity, and economic

1 status. A report submitted by a general academic teaching
2 institution or medical and dental unit as defined by [~~in~~] Section
3 61.003 must include separate demographic breakdowns of the students
4 admitted under Sections 51.803, 51.804, [~~and~~] 51.805, and 51.806.

5 (b) At the time the institution or unit provides the report
6 to the coordinating board, the institution or unit shall provide to
7 the Legislative Budget Board the information in the report relating
8 to the transfer students admitted under Section 51.806.

9 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
13 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.