

1-1 By: Otto, Straus, Strama (Senate Sponsor - Watson) H.B. No. 4065
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 7, 2007;
1-3 May 8, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Business
1-4 and Commerce; May 21, 2007, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 21, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to the establishment by the Texas Workforce Commission of
1-9 a pilot program to provide grants for the construction of certain
1-10 facilities for job training and employment services.

1-11 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-12 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 302, Labor Code, is
1-13 amended by adding Section 302.015 to read as follows:

1-14 Sec. 302.015. CONSTRUCTION OF JOB TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT
1-15 SERVICES FACILITIES; PILOT GRANT PROGRAM. (a) In this section,
1-16 "qualified workforce community training center" means an
1-17 organization that:

1-18 (1) specializes in the retail sale of donated items;

1-19 (2) provides job training and employment services to
1-20 individuals with disabilities or other barriers to employment;

1-21 (3) uses a majority of its revenues for job training
1-22 and employment programs that create and foster economic
1-23 development;

1-24 (4) maintains at least a 50 percent ratio of employees
1-25 who have a disability or other barrier to employment;

1-26 (5) operates in at least three counties, has multiple
1-27 locations, and is affiliated with a statewide organization; and

1-28 (6) is exempt from federal taxation under Section
1-29 501(a), Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as an organization described
1-30 by Section 501(c)(3) of that code.

1-31 (b) The commission may establish a pilot program under which
1-32 the commission contracts with the Texas Association of Goodwills
1-33 for the commission to administer grants to reimburse qualified
1-34 workforce training centers identified by the Texas Association of
1-35 Goodwills for costs associated with the construction of new
1-36 facilities that provide job training or employment services. The
1-37 contract entered into under this subsection must provide that:

1-38 (1) the commission receives an administrative
1-39 overhead fee of one percent of the amount of each grant awarded
1-40 under the program; and

1-41 (2) each grant awarded under the program is funded
1-42 only on:

1-43 (A) the completion of the facility for which the
1-44 grant is awarded; and

1-45 (B) notification from the commission that the
1-46 contract terms relating to the award of the grant have been
1-47 satisfied.

1-48 (c) The total amount of grants awarded under this section
1-49 may not exceed \$3 million.

1-50 (d) The commission may adopt rules for the administration of
1-51 this section.

1-52 (e) Not later than January 1, 2009, the commission shall
1-53 report to the legislature regarding the commission's:

1-54 (1) assessment of the effectiveness of any pilot
1-55 program in creating and fostering economic development; and

1-56 (2) recommendation regarding the continuation of that
1-57 program.

1-58 (f) This section expires September 1, 2009.

1-59 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-60 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-61 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-62 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-63 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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