

By: West, Royce

S.B. No. 105

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the establishment of a law school in the city of Dallas
3 by the University of North Texas System.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter J, Chapter 105, Education Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 105.502 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 105.502. UNIVERSITY OF NORTH TEXAS SYSTEM SCHOOL OF
8 LAW. (a) The board may establish and operate a school of law in
9 the city of Dallas as a professional school of the University of
10 North Texas System.

11 (b) In administering the law school, the board may prescribe
12 courses leading to customary degrees offered at other leading
13 American schools of law and may award those degrees.

14 (c) Until the University of North Texas at Dallas has been
15 administered as a general academic teaching institution for five
16 years, the board shall administer the law school as a professional
17 school of the system. After that period, the law school shall
18 become a professional school of the University of North Texas at
19 Dallas. Until the law school becomes a professional school of the
20 University of North Texas at Dallas, the law school is entitled to
21 formula funding as if the law school were a professional school of a
22 general academic teaching institution.

23 (d) Before the board establishes a law school under this
24 section, but not later than June 1, 2008, the Texas Higher Education

1 Coordinating Board shall prepare a feasibility study to determine
2 the actions the system must take to obtain accreditation of the law
3 school. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall
4 deliver a copy of the study to the chair of each legislative
5 standing committee or subcommittee with jurisdiction over higher
6 education.

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