

By: Nelson

S.B. No. 141

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to a feasibility study regarding joint health science  
3 courses at a public or private institution of higher education.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is  
6 amended by adding Section 61.0661 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 61.0661. FEASIBILITY STUDY REGARDING JOINT HEALTH  
8 SCIENCE COURSES. (a) The board, in consultation with the  
9 administrative head or the designee of the administrative head of  
10 each state agency that is a member of or otherwise represented on  
11 the Health Professions Council and with appropriate  
12 representatives of private or independent institutions of higher  
13 education, shall conduct a study to evaluate the feasibility of a  
14 public or private institution of higher education providing courses  
15 in which students enrolled in different health science or health  
16 profession education programs may enroll to study basic health  
17 science curricula together.

18 (b) Not later than September 30, 2008, the board shall  
19 complete the study required by Subsection (a) and based on the study  
20 shall submit to the governing body of each public or private  
21 institution of higher education that offers health science or  
22 health profession education programs, the governor, and the  
23 legislature a report that includes any recommendations of the board  
24 or the other study participants concerning:

1           (1) whether it is feasible to provide courses  
2 described by Subsection (a);

3           (2) which, if any, such courses should be offered;

4           (3) which, if any, public or private institutions of  
5 higher education or which types of such institutions should offer  
6 the courses; and

7           (4) any other relevant issues the study participants  
8 determine would be helpful in making decisions concerning the  
9 feasibility of offering joint health science courses.

10          (c) This section expires January 1, 2009.

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