

By: Shapleigh

S.B. No. 649

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to requiring the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
3 to conduct a study concerning the effectiveness of joint
4 partnerships between institutions of higher education.

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

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

8 Sec. 61.0661. STUDY OF JOINT PARTNERSHIPS BETWEEN
9 INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION. (a) The board shall conduct a
10 study to determine whether institutions of higher education,
11 including component institutions of different university systems,
12 may effectively enter into joint partnership agreements to:

13 (1) develop joint degree programs and joint research
14 programs;

15 (2) make joint appointments of faculty or other
16 personnel to the partnership and to either or both institutions;
17 and

18 (3) maintain joint facilities for purposes of
19 conducting joint programs described by Subdivision (1).

20 (b) Not later than January 1, 2009, the board shall report
21 to the legislature concerning the results of the study conducted
22 under Subsection (a). The report must include the board's
23 recommendations for implementing effective joint partnerships
24 between institutions of higher education.

1 (c) The board shall use existing resources to perform duties
2 imposed under this section.

3 (d) This section expires June 1, 2009.

4 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.