

House Bill 2198
Senate Amendments
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

SECTION 1. Section 130.0012, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 130.0012. ~~[PILOT—PROJECT:]~~
BACCALAUREATE DEGREE PROGRAMS. (a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall authorize ~~[establish a pilot project to examine the feasibility and effectiveness of authorizing]~~ public junior colleges to offer baccalaureate degree programs in the fields of applied science and applied technology under this section. Offering a baccalaureate degree program under this section ~~[Participation in the pilot project]~~ does not otherwise alter the role and mission of a public junior college.

(b) The coordinating board shall authorize baccalaureate degree programs ~~[operate the pilot project]~~ at each ~~[three]~~ public junior college that previously participated in a pilot project to offer baccalaureate degree programs and shall authorize baccalaureate degree programs at an additional public junior college if the coordinating board determines that it is in the best interest of this state for that public junior college to offer those degree programs after considering the criteria established by the coordinating board under Subsection (e) ~~[colleges, as determined by the coordinating board]~~.

(c) A public junior college offering a baccalaureate degree program under this section ~~[participating in the pilot project]~~ must meet all applicable accreditation requirements of the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools.

(d) A public junior college offering a baccalaureate

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~~degree program under this section [participating in the pilot project]~~ may not offer more than five baccalaureate degree programs ~~[under the project]~~ at any time. The degree programs are subject to the continuing approval of the coordinating board.

(e) In determining **whether a public junior college may offer baccalaureate degree programs and** what baccalaureate degree programs are to be offered, ~~the junior college and~~ the coordinating board shall consider:

- (1) the need for the degree programs in the region served by the junior college;
- (2) how those degree programs would complement the other programs and course offerings of the junior college;
- (3) whether those degree programs would unnecessarily duplicate the degree programs offered by other institutions of higher education; and
- (4) the ability of the junior college to support the program and the adequacy of the junior college's facilities, faculty, administration, libraries, and other resources.

(f) ~~(e)~~ Each public junior college that offers a baccalaureate degree program under this section ~~[the pilot project]~~ must enter into an articulation agreement with one or more general academic teaching institutions to ensure that students enrolled in the degree program have an opportunity to complete the degree if the public junior college ceases to offer the degree program. The coordinating board may require a general academic teaching institution that offers a comparable degree

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~~degree program under this section [participating in the pilot project]~~ may not offer more than five baccalaureate degree programs ~~[under the project]~~ at any time. The degree programs are subject to the continuing approval of the coordinating board.

(e) In determining what baccalaureate degree programs are to be offered, ~~[the junior college and]~~ the coordinating board shall consider:

- (1) the need for the degree programs in the region served by the junior college;
- (2) how those degree programs would complement the other programs and course offerings of the junior college;
- (3) whether those degree programs would unnecessarily duplicate the degree programs offered by other institutions of higher education; and
- (4) the ability of the junior college to support the program and the adequacy of the junior college's facilities, faculty, administration, libraries, and other resources.

(f) ~~(e)~~ Each public junior college that offers a baccalaureate degree program under this section ~~[the pilot project]~~ must enter into an articulation agreement with one or more general academic teaching institutions to ensure that students enrolled in the degree program have an opportunity to complete the degree if the public junior college ceases to offer the degree program. The coordinating board may require a general academic teaching institution that offers a comparable degree

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program to enter into an articulation agreement with the public junior college as provided by this subsection.

(g) [(f)] In its recommendations to the legislature relating to state funding for public junior colleges, the coordinating board shall recommend that a public junior college receive substantially the same state support for junior-level and senior-level courses offered under this section [~~the pilot project~~] as that provided to a general academic teaching institution for substantially similar courses. In determining the contact hours attributable to students enrolled in a junior-level or senior-level course offered under this section [~~the pilot project~~] used to determine a public junior college's proportionate share of state appropriations under Section 130.003, the coordinating board shall weigh those contact hours as necessary to provide the junior college the appropriate level of state support to the extent state funds for those courses are included in the appropriations. This subsection does not prohibit the legislature from directly appropriating state funds to support junior-level and senior-level courses offered under this section [~~the pilot project~~].

(h) [(g)] Each public junior college offering a baccalaureate degree program under this section [~~participating in the pilot project~~] shall prepare a biennial report on the operation and effectiveness of the junior college's baccalaureate degree programs [~~offered under the project~~] and shall deliver a copy of the report to the coordinating board in the form and at the time determined by the coordinating board.

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(g) [(f)] In its recommendations to the legislature relating to state funding for public junior colleges, the coordinating board shall recommend that a public junior college receive substantially the same state support for junior-level and senior-level courses offered under this section [~~the pilot project~~] as that provided to a general academic teaching institution for substantially similar courses. In determining the contact hours attributable to students enrolled in a junior-level or senior-level course offered under this section [~~the pilot project~~] used to determine a public junior college's proportionate share of state appropriations under Section 130.003, the coordinating board shall weigh those contact hours as necessary to provide the junior college the appropriate level of state support to the extent state funds for those courses are included in the appropriations. This subsection does not prohibit the legislature from directly appropriating state funds to support junior-level and senior-level courses offered under this section [~~the pilot project~~].

(h) [(g)] Each public junior college offering a baccalaureate degree program under this section [~~participating in the pilot project~~] shall prepare a biennial report on the operation and effectiveness of the junior college's baccalaureate degree programs [~~offered under the project~~] and shall deliver a copy of the report to the coordinating board in the form and at the time determined by the coordinating board.

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(i) The ~~[(h) Not later than January 1, 2009, the]~~ coordinating board shall establish an application process to select additional public junior colleges that will be authorized to offer baccalaureate degree programs under this section ~~[prepare a progress report on the pilot project. Not later than January 1, 2011, the coordinating board shall prepare a report on the effectiveness of the pilot project, including any recommendations for legislative action regarding the offering of baccalaureate degree programs by public junior colleges. The coordinating board shall deliver a copy of each report to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the chair of the standing committee of each house of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over higher education].~~

~~[(i) Unless the authority to continue offering the baccalaureate degree programs is continued by the legislature, a public junior college may not:~~

~~[(1) enroll a new student in a baccalaureate degree program under the pilot project after the 2011 fall semester;~~

~~[(2) offer junior level or senior level courses for those degree programs after the 2015 fall semester, unless the coordinating board authorizes the college to offer those courses; or~~

~~[(3) award a baccalaureate degree under the pilot project after the 2015 fall semester, unless the coordinating board approves the awarding of the degree.]~~

(j) The coordinating board shall prescribe procedures to ensure that each public junior college that offers a degree

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~~[(h) Not later than January 1, 2009, the]~~ ~~[prepare a progress report on the pilot project. Not later than January 1, 2011, the coordinating board shall prepare a report on the effectiveness of the pilot project, including any recommendations for legislative action regarding the offering of baccalaureate degree programs by public junior colleges. The coordinating board shall deliver a copy of each report to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the chair of the standing committee of each house of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over higher education].~~

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program under this section [~~the pilot project~~] informs each student who enrolls in the degree program of[:
[~~(1) the nature of the pilot project, including the limited duration of the project; and~~
[~~(2)~~] the articulation agreement entered into under Subsection (f) [~~(e)~~] for the student's degree program.
[~~(k) This section expires January 1, 2020.~~]

SECTION 2. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall establish the application process required by Section 130.0012(i), Education Code, as added by this Act, not later than January 1, 2009.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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No equivalent provision.

Same as House version.

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