

By: Christian, Gallego, Deshotel, Kolkhorst,
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H.B. No. 425

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a prohibition against changing the name of certain public institutions of higher education that are named after state historical figures.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 51, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 51.9051 to read as follows:

Sec. 51.9051. PRESERVING INSTITUTION NAME BASED ON STATE HISTORICAL FIGURE. (a) In this section, "general academic teaching institution," "governing board," and "public state college" have the meanings assigned by Section 61.003.

(b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall maintain a registry that includes each general academic teaching institution, other than a public state college, that is named after an established historical figure of this state, as determined by the coordinating board in consultation with the Texas Historical Commission.

(c) The governing board of an institution included on the registry may not change the name of the institution in a manner that removes the name of the established historical figure from the name of the institution.

SECTION 2. 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

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1 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

2 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.