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H.B. No. 1325

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the degrees awarded by the Texas State Technical  
3 College System.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 135.011, Education Code, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 Sec. 135.011. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter [~~section~~]:

8 (1) "Board" means the board of regents of the Texas  
9 State Technical College System.

10 (2) "Coordinating board" means the Texas Higher  
11 Education Coordinating Board.

12 (3) "System" means the Texas State Technical College  
13 System.

14 (4) "Faculty research" means research using the  
15 system's facilities and equipment that is:

16 (A) consistent with the system's mission; and

17 (B) funded by private sources, competitively  
18 acquired sources, or appropriated public funding.

19 (5) "Campus" means a residential unit of the system  
20 that grants associate degrees and certificates.

21 (6) "Extension center" means a site, operating under  
22 the administration of a campus, that has an extension program.

23 (7) "Extension program" includes credit and noncredit  
24 instruction in technical-vocational education.

1 SECTION 2. Section 135.51, Education Code, is amended to  
2 read as follows:

3 Sec. 135.51. CERTIFICATES, DIPLOMAS, AND ASSOCIATE  
4 DEGREES. (a) The board shall prescribe and award associate of  
5 applied science degrees, certificates, and diplomas limited to  
6 those appropriate to technical education.

7 (b) The board may offer and award an associate of science  
8 degree in a field of study at Texas State Technical  
9 College--Harlingen if the coordinating board determines that the  
10 degree in that field of study:

11 (1) is appropriate to the role and mission of the  
12 system; and

13 (2) meets the educational or workforce needs of the  
14 region in which the campus is located.

15 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
16 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
17 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
18 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
19 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.