

By: Strama

H.B. No. 4329

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the creation of a database to track specialized  
3 technology research projects conducted by public universities,  
4 public university research facilities, and other state  
5 institutions.

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

7 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is  
8 amended by adding Section 61.0823 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 61.0823. STATEWIDE SPECIALIZED TECHNOLOGY RESEARCH  
10 DATABASE. (a) The board shall collect data and maintain a database  
11 relating to specialized technology research projects that are  
12 developed or conducted at institutions of higher education,  
13 research facilities of institutions of higher education, or other  
14 facilities operated by a state agency in order to facilitate  
15 coordination among the institutions and facilities on the projects.

16 (b) The database must include:

17 (1) a list of any projects involving one or more of the  
18 following areas:

19 (A) energy research, including methods of  
20 creation, storage, distribution, and conservation of energy;

21 (B) biomedical science research;

22 (C) nanotechnology research, including  
23 nanomedicine; and

24 (D) other specialized technology research;

1           (2) for each project listed under Subdivision (1), a  
2 brief description of the project, including the field of technology  
3 involved, the entity involved with the project, and additional  
4 comments regarding the research the board considers appropriate;  
5 and

6           (3) other relevant information and available  
7 resources in this state relating to specialized technology  
8 research, including:

9                   (A) expert faculty or research personnel;

10                   (B) technology developed and patents obtained;

11 and

12                   (C) the location of and policies for the use of  
13 available research equipment.

14           (c) In order to avoid duplication of efforts, the board may,  
15 through a memorandum of understanding, work in conjunction with the  
16 Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office in collecting data  
17 for and maintaining the database developed under this section.

18           (d) The board shall allow public access to the information  
19 maintained in the database to the extent necessary to comply with  
20 state and federal laws regarding access to public information.

21           (e) On request, an institution of higher education,  
22 research facility of an institution of higher education, or other  
23 facility operated by a state agency shall provide to the board any  
24 information necessary for the board to perform its duties under  
25 this section.

26           (f) The board shall adopt rules for the administration of  
27 this section.

1           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
5 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.