By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 44

## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

- 2 relating to the participation of undergraduate students in funding
- 3 awarded under the advanced research program.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
- 5 SECTION 1. Section 142.002, Education Code, is amended to
- 6 read as follows:
- 7 Sec. 142.002. PURPOSE. The advanced research program is
- 8 established to encourage and provide support for basic research
- 9 conducted by faculty members <u>and students</u> in astronomy, atmospheric
- 10 science, biological and behavioral sciences, chemistry, computer
- 11 sciences, earth sciences, engineering, information science,
- 12 mathematics, material sciences, oceanography, physics,
- 13 environmental issues affecting the Texas-Mexico border region, the
- 14 reduction of industrial, agricultural, and domestic water use,
- 15 social sciences, and related disciplines in eligible institutions.
- SECTION 2. Subsection (c), Section 142.003, Education Code,
- 17 is amended to read as follows:
- 18 (c) The guidelines and procedures developed by the
- 19 coordinating board must:
- 20 <u>(1)</u> provide for awards on a competitive, peer review
- 21 basis for specific projects at eligible institutions; and
- 22 (2) require that, as a condition of receiving an
- 23 award, an eligible institution must use a portion of the award to
- 24 support basic research conducted by undergraduate students in

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