

1-1 By: Shapiro, Eltife, Harris S.B. No. 1313
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 4, 2009; March 17, 2009, read
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1-6 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1313 By: Shapiro

1-7 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-8 AN ACT

1-9 relating to the quality and accessibility of public school career
1-10 and technical education programs and to assistance to students
1-11 concerning postsecondary education and training.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Section 7.009, Education Code, is amended to
1-14 read as follows:

1-15 Sec. 7.009. BEST PRACTICES; CLEARINGHOUSE. (a) In
1-16 coordination with the Legislative Budget Board, the agency shall
1-17 establish an online clearinghouse of information relating to best
1-18 practices of campuses, ~~[and] school districts, and open-enrollment~~
1-19 ~~charter schools.~~ In addition to information required under
1-20 Subsection (e), the agency shall determine the appropriate topic
1-21 categories for which a campus, district, or charter school may
1-22 submit best ~~[regarding instruction, dropout prevention, public~~
1-23 ~~school finance, resource allocation, and business]~~ practices. To
1-24 the extent practicable, the agency shall ensure that information
1-25 provided through the online clearinghouse is specific, actionable
1-26 information relating to the best practices of high-performing and
1-27 highly efficient campuses, ~~[and school] districts, and~~
1-28 open-enrollment charter schools and of academically acceptable
1-29 campuses, districts, and open-enrollment charter schools that have
1-30 demonstrated significant improvement in student achievement rather
1-31 than general guidelines relating to campus, [and school] district,
1-32 and open-enrollment charter school operation. The information must
1-33 be accessible by campuses, school districts, open-enrollment
1-34 charter schools, and interested members of the public.

1-35 (b) The agency shall solicit and collect from the
1-36 Legislative Budget Board, centers for education research
1-37 established under Section 1.005, and ~~[exemplary or recognized]~~
1-38 school districts, campuses, and open-enrollment charter schools~~[-~~
1-39 ~~as rated under Section 39.072,]~~ examples of best practices as
1-40 determined by the agency under Subsection (a) and as required under
1-41 Subsection (e) ~~[relating to instruction, dropout prevention,~~
1-42 ~~public school finance, resource allocation, and business~~
1-43 ~~practices, including best practices relating to curriculum, scope~~
1-44 ~~and sequence, compensation and incentive systems, bilingual~~
1-45 ~~education and special language programs, compensatory education~~
1-46 ~~programs, and the effective use of instructional technology,~~
1-47 ~~including online courses].~~

1-48 (c) The agency may ~~[shall]~~ contract for the services of one
1-49 or more third-party contractors to ~~[develop, implement, and]~~
1-50 maintain a system of collecting and evaluating the best practices
1-51 of campuses, ~~[and] school districts, and open-enrollment charter~~
1-52 schools as provided by this section. In addition to any other
1-53 considerations required by law, the agency must consider an
1-54 applicant's demonstrated competence and qualifications in
1-55 analyzing campus, ~~[and] school district, and open-enrollment~~
1-56 charter school practices in awarding a contract under this
1-57 subsection.

1-58 (d) The commissioner may purchase from available funds
1-59 curriculum and other instructional tools identified under this
1-60 section to provide for use by school districts and open-enrollment
1-61 charter schools.

1-62 (e) The clearinghouse shall collect and provide information
1-63 relating to best practices in career and technology education,

2-1 including:
2-2 (1) model programs that connect kindergarten through
2-3 grade 12 to postsecondary employment or higher education in a
2-4 seamless system that includes the use of quality internship
2-5 programs;
2-6 (2) courses that teach, in an applied manner, the
2-7 required curriculum under Section 28.002;
2-8 (3) models of course scheduling that allow students to
2-9 participate in a coherent sequence of career and technology courses
2-10 while meeting the requirement adopted under Section 28.025 that
2-11 students complete four courses in each subject of the foundation
2-12 curriculum under Section 28.002(a)(1);
2-13 (4) counseling that:
2-14 (A) assists students in identifying current or
2-15 emerging high-demand, high-wage occupations appropriate for the
2-16 student or other occupations appropriate for and of interest to the
2-17 student;
2-18 (B) assists students in determining the skills
2-19 needed for the occupations identified under Paragraph (A);
2-20 (C) assists students in planning courses and
2-21 schedules to acquire the needed skills;
2-22 (D) connects students to employment
2-23 opportunities and to institutions of higher education;
2-24 (E) provides a method to assess students'
2-25 aptitudes or interests; and
2-26 (F) informs students about career options and
2-27 levels of education and training needed to obtain entry and
2-28 advanced levels of employment in current and emerging occupations
2-29 regionally and statewide; and
2-30 (5) the integration into and use for the career and
2-31 technology education course sequences of:
2-32 (A) Internet courses;
2-33 (B) interactive television; and
2-34 (C) other innovative methods of providing
2-35 instruction.
2-36 (f) This subsection expires January 31, 2011. Not later
2-37 than January 1, 2011, the agency shall report to the governor,
2-38 lieutenant governor, speaker of the house of representatives, and
2-39 chair of each standing committee of the legislature with primary
2-40 jurisdiction over public education recommendations regarding how
2-41 to use the clearinghouse established under this section as a
2-42 dynamic technical assistance and support tool. The recommendations
2-43 must include recommendations regarding:
2-44 (1) using the clearinghouse to provide classroom
2-45 teachers, school districts, and open-enrollment charter schools
2-46 with statewide access to high-quality curricula;
2-47 (2) consolidating access to similar state Internet web
2-48 portals from a single Internet website; and
2-49 (3) providing students access to Internet-based
2-50 academic and career counseling that includes cooperation among the
2-51 relevant state agencies for the purpose of transitioning students,
2-52 including students enrolled in a special education program under
2-53 Subchapter A, Chapter 29, from kindergarten through grade 12 to
2-54 higher education and postsecondary employment.
2-55 SECTION 2. Section 28.002, Education Code, is amended by
2-56 adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:
2-57 (d) Each time the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
2-58 revises the Internet database of the coordinating board's official
2-59 statewide inventory of workforce education courses, the State Board
2-60 of Education shall by rule revise the essential knowledge and
2-61 skills of any corresponding career and technology education
2-62 curriculum as provided by Subsection (c).
2-63 SECTION 3. Subchapter F, Chapter 29, Education Code, is
2-64 amended by adding Section 29.186 to read as follows:
2-65 Sec. 29.186. HIGH-DEMAND OCCUPATIONS LIST. (a) The Texas
2-66 Workforce Commission shall develop, in consultation with the Texas
2-67 Workforce Investment Council, a list of current or emerging
2-68 high-demand, high-wage, high-skill occupations in this state that
2-69 require licensure, certification, an associate degree, or a

3-1 bachelor's degree. The Texas Workforce Commission shall provide
 3-2 the research and technical support for developing the list under
 3-3 this subsection.

3-4 (b) The Texas Workforce Investment Council shall consider
 3-5 the list developed under Subsection (a) and approve a list for
 3-6 submission to the commissioner. On approval of the list, the Texas
 3-7 Workforce Investment Council shall deliver the list to the
 3-8 commissioner.

3-9 (c) The commissioner of education, after consultation with
 3-10 the commissioner of higher education, shall consider the list
 3-11 delivered under Subsection (b) and approve a final list of current
 3-12 or emerging high-demand, high-wage, high-skill occupations in this
 3-13 state that require licensure, certification, an associate degree,
 3-14 or a bachelor's degree.

3-15 (d) The list of current or emerging high-demand, high-wage,
 3-16 high-skill occupations in this state that require licensure,
 3-17 certification, an associate degree, or a bachelor's degree shall be
 3-18 reviewed and approved under the process provided by this section
 3-19 every four years.

3-20 SECTION 4. Subsections (a) and (c), Section 29.190,
 3-21 Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

3-22 (a) A student is entitled to a subsidy under this section
 3-23 if:

3-24 (1) the student:

3-25 (A) [~~(1)~~] successfully completes the career and
 3-26 technology program of a school district in which the student
 3-27 receives training and instruction for employment in a current or
 3-28 emerging high-demand, high-wage, high-skill [~~certain trade or~~]
 3-29 occupation, as determined under Section 29.186; or

3-30 (B) is enrolled in a special education program
 3-31 under Subchapter A;

3-32 (2) the student passes a certification examination to
 3-33 qualify for a license or certificate for the [~~trade or~~] occupation;
 3-34 and

3-35 (3) the student submits to the district a written
 3-36 application in the form, time, and manner required by the district
 3-37 for the district to subsidize the cost of an examination described
 3-38 by Subdivision (2) [~~demonstrates financial need~~].

3-39 (c) On approval by the commissioner, the agency shall pay
 3-40 each school district [~~eligible student~~] an amount equal to the cost
 3-41 paid by the district or student for the certification examination.
 3-42 To obtain reimbursement for a subsidy paid under this section, a
 3-43 district [~~student~~] must:

3-44 (1) pay the fee for the examination or pay the student
 3-45 the amount of the fee paid by the student for the examination; and

3-46 (2) submit to the commissioner a written application
 3-47 on a form prescribed by the commissioner stating [~~demonstrating~~
 3-48 financial need and] the amount of the fee paid under Subdivision (1)
 3-49 [~~by the student~~] for the certification examination.

3-50 SECTION 5. Subchapter A, Chapter 33, Education Code, is
 3-51 amended by adding Section 33.008 to read as follows:

3-52 Sec. 33.008. COUNSELING REGARDING COLLEGE AND CAREER
 3-53 READINESS AND POSTSECONDARY SUCCESS. (a) Each counselor at an
 3-54 elementary or middle or junior high school, including an
 3-55 open-enrollment charter school offering those grades, shall advise
 3-56 students and their parents or guardians regarding:

3-57 (1) the importance of higher education;

3-58 (2) coursework designed to prepare students for
 3-59 postsecondary education and training, including career and
 3-60 technology education;

3-61 (3) the opportunity while in high school to earn
 3-62 college credit and industry certification; and

3-63 (4) financial aid availability and requirements.

3-64 (b) The information under Subsection (a) shall be provided
 3-65 in a manner that assists a student in establishing a personal
 3-66 graduation plan that leads to licensure, certification, an
 3-67 associate degree, or a bachelor's degree.

3-68 (c) During the first school year a student is enrolled in a
 3-69 high school or at the high school level in an open-enrollment

4-1 charter school, a counselor shall provide to students and their
4-2 parents or guardians information regarding higher education and
4-3 coursework designed to prepare students for postsecondary
4-4 education and training, including career and technology education,
4-5 as part of any information provided to assist a student in
4-6 establishing a personal graduation plan that leads to licensure,
4-7 certification, an associate degree, or a bachelor's degree.

4-8 (d) The career and technology education information
4-9 provided under this section must include information regarding:

4-10 (1) available course and career options, including
4-11 projected future demand for particular careers;

4-12 (2) current or emerging high-demand, high-wage,
4-13 high-skill occupations;

4-14 (3) information concerning career options and levels
4-15 of education and training needed to obtain entry and advanced
4-16 levels of employment;

4-17 (4) certification requirements, licensing
4-18 requirements, and higher education and training requirements,
4-19 including skills needed and coursework required to meet those
4-20 requirements;

4-21 (5) the opportunity while in high school to earn
4-22 college credit and industry certification;

4-23 (6) obtaining an aptitude or interest assessment; and

4-24 (7) the advantages of completing the recommended or
4-25 advanced high school program adopted under Section 28.025(a).

4-26 SECTION 6. Subsection (a), Section 42.154, Education Code,
4-27 is amended to read as follows:

4-28 (a) For each full-time equivalent student in average daily
4-29 attendance in an approved career and technology education program
4-30 in grades nine through 12 or in career and technology education
4-31 programs for students with disabilities in grades seven through 12,
4-32 a district is entitled to:

4-33 (1) an annual allotment equal to the adjusted basic
4-34 allotment multiplied by a weight of 1.35; and

4-35 (2) \$50, if the student is enrolled in:

4-36 (A) two or more advanced career and technology
4-37 education classes for a total of three or more credits; or

4-38 (B) an advanced course as part of a tech-prep
4-39 program under Subchapter T, Chapter 61.

4-40 SECTION 7. Subsection (a), Section 54.0065, Education Code,
4-41 is amended to read as follows:

4-42 (a) A qualified student is eligible for a rebate of a
4-43 portion of the undergraduate tuition the student has paid if the
4-44 student:

4-45 (1) is awarded a baccalaureate degree from a general
4-46 academic teaching institution within the period prescribed by
4-47 Section 56.462(1)(A) or (B), as applicable, to qualify for
4-48 forgiveness of a Texas B-On-time loan; and

4-49 (2) has attempted no more than three hours in excess of
4-50 the minimum number of semester credit hours required to complete
4-51 the degree program:

4-52 (A) including:

4-53 (i) transfer credits; and

4-54 (ii) course credit earned exclusively by
4-55 examination, except that, for purposes of this subsection, only the
4-56 number of semester credit hours earned exclusively by examination
4-57 in excess of nine semester credit hours is treated as hours
4-58 attempted; and

4-59 (B) excluding course credit that is earned to
4-60 satisfy requirements for a Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC)
4-61 program or from an articulated or dual credit course for which the
4-62 student received credit toward a high school diploma but that is not
4-63 required to complete the degree program.

4-64 SECTION 8. Subsection (d), Section 61.0595, Education Code,
4-65 is amended to read as follows:

4-66 (d) The following are not counted for purposes of
4-67 determining whether the student has previously earned the number of
4-68 semester credit hours specified by Subsection (a):

4-69 (1) semester credit hours earned by the student before

5-1 receiving a baccalaureate degree that has previously been awarded
5-2 to the student;

5-3 (2) semester credit hours earned by the student by
5-4 examination or under any other procedure by which credit is earned
5-5 without registering for a course for which tuition is charged;

5-6 (3) credit for a remedial education course, a
5-7 technical course, a workforce education course funded according to
5-8 contact hours, an articulated or dual credit course for which the
5-9 student received credit toward a high school diploma, or another
5-10 course that does not count toward the student's specific [a] degree
5-11 program [at the institution]; and

5-12 (4) semester credit hours earned by the student at a
5-13 private institution or an out-of-state institution.

5-14 SECTION 9. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
5-15 amended by adding Section 61.0663 to read as follows:

5-16 Sec. 61.0663. ECONOMIC IMPACT STUDY. (a) To assess the
5-17 economic benefits and preparation for employment provided by public
5-18 primary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education,
5-19 the board shall identify students enrolled in the public education
5-20 system and collect data on which postsecondary program, if any, the
5-21 students enroll in and the type of employment the students obtain
5-22 following completion of high school or the program, as applicable.

5-23 (b) The board, in consultation with the Texas Education
5-24 Agency, the Texas Workforce Commission, and the comptroller, shall
5-25 use the education and employment data collected under Subsection
5-26 (a), and any additional relevant data, to assess the economic
5-27 impact of secondary and postsecondary training and education. The
5-28 information must be produced in a manner that:

5-29 (1) demonstrates patterns of postsecondary enrollment
5-30 and employment placement;

5-31 (2) provides an assessment of the economic benefits of
5-32 institutions of higher education and programs at those institutions
5-33 to students and the state; and

5-34 (3) provides an assessment of the economic benefit of
5-35 public education programs that prepare students who transition
5-36 directly to postsecondary employment.

5-37 (c) The information produced under this section must be
5-38 capable of electronic dissemination and made available to the
5-39 public in a format that assists students in making decisions
5-40 regarding education and career choices.

5-41 (d) This section does not authorize the disclosure of
5-42 student information that may not be disclosed under the Family
5-43 Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (20 U.S.C. Section
5-44 1232g). The board, in conjunction with the commissioner of
5-45 education, the comptroller, and the Texas Workforce Commission,
5-46 shall adopt rules to protect the confidentiality of student
5-47 information.

5-48 SECTION 10. Section 61.0762, Education Code, is amended to
5-49 read as follows:

5-50 Sec. 61.0762. PROGRAMS TO ENHANCE STUDENT SUCCESS. (a) To
5-51 implement the college readiness and success strategic action plan
5-52 adopted under Section 61.0761 and to enhance the success of
5-53 students at institutions of higher education, the board by rule
5-54 shall develop:

5-55 (1) summer higher education bridge programs in the
5-56 subject areas of mathematics, science, and English language arts;

5-57 (2) incentive programs for institutions of higher
5-58 education that implement research-based, innovative developmental
5-59 education initiatives;

5-60 (3) financial assistance programs for educationally
5-61 disadvantaged students, as defined by Section 5.001, who take
5-62 college entrance and college readiness assessment instruments;

5-63 (4) professional development programs for faculty of
5-64 institutions of higher education on college readiness standards and
5-65 the implications of such standards on instruction; and

5-66 (5) other programs as determined by the board that
5-67 support the participation and success goals in "Closing the Gaps,"
5-68 the state's master plan for higher education.

5-69 (b) As one of the programs adopted under Subsection (a)(5),

6-1 the board, in coordination with the commissioner of education,
 6-2 shall establish education resource centers to create within school
 6-3 communities interest in and information concerning attendance at
 6-4 institutions of higher education. Each center must attempt to
 6-5 coordinate among students, parents, school counselors, and
 6-6 institutions of higher education in providing access to resources
 6-7 helpful in preparation for attendance at and admission to
 6-8 institutions of higher education. One or more persons associated
 6-9 with each center shall be trained and able to assist the families of
 6-10 high school students to complete the Free Application for Federal
 6-11 Student Aid (FAFSA) form. Each center shall provide information
 6-12 concerning career and technical education, including certification
 6-13 and licensing requirements and available course and career options
 6-14 and degree programs. A center under this subsection may be located
 6-15 on a high school or middle school campus or at a site within a
 6-16 community that is conveniently located to many students, such as a
 6-17 public library or local workforce or community center, or may be a
 6-18 mobile center that visits schools or other places where students
 6-19 are likely to gather.

6-20 (c) The board shall conduct ongoing evaluations of programs
 6-21 developed under Subsection (a) and any other programs developed to
 6-22 provide information concerning postsecondary educational or
 6-23 employment opportunities to determine the effectiveness of the
 6-24 programs in meeting the goals of "Closing the Gaps," the state's
 6-25 master plan for higher education.

6-26 (d) In conjunction with the comptroller and the Texas
 6-27 Workforce Commission, the board shall develop an Internet website
 6-28 for the purpose of providing information to the public about
 6-29 postsecondary educational and employment opportunities. The
 6-30 website shall provide information in English and Spanish
 6-31 concerning:

6-32 (1) career and technical education programs that
 6-33 integrate academic, technical, and career skills that lead to a
 6-34 license, certificate, or postsecondary degree;

6-35 (2) available employment opportunities and the
 6-36 educational requirements needed for employment at entry and
 6-37 advanced levels;

6-38 (3) which occupations are considered high-demand or
 6-39 emerging under Section 29.186;

6-40 (4) the skills needed and the available avenues for
 6-41 obtaining employment in a high-demand or emerging occupation; and

6-42 (5) how to obtain financial aid and what forms of
 6-43 financial aid are available to students entering certain
 6-44 occupations.

6-45 (e) For the purpose of developing the Internet website under
 6-46 Subsection (d), the board may require the Texas Education Agency to
 6-47 provide information on educational programs and outcomes and the
 6-48 Texas Workforce Commission to provide information on workforce
 6-49 programs and outcomes.

6-50 (f) As one of the programs adopted under Subsection (a)(5),
 6-51 the board, in conjunction with the comptroller and the Texas
 6-52 Workforce Commission, shall establish mobile career centers that
 6-53 visit schools or other places where students are likely to gather.
 6-54 The mobile career centers shall provide students information on
 6-55 various occupations, including:

6-56 (1) the potential future employment demand for the
 6-57 occupation;

6-58 (2) the earning potential for a person employed in the
 6-59 occupation;

6-60 (3) the skills and training needed for employment in
 6-61 the occupation;

6-62 (4) a list of courses applicable to the occupation,
 6-63 including courses offered in high school, for dual credit, on the
 6-64 Internet, and at institutions of higher education, and the extent
 6-65 to which those courses are available to the student; and

6-66 (5) information concerning post-entry-level
 6-67 employment opportunities in the occupation and, to the extent
 6-68 feasible, information concerning the education required to access
 6-69 those future opportunities.

7-1 (g) The mobile career centers established under Subsection
 7-2 (f):
 7-3 (1) shall be operated, to the extent practicable, in
 7-4 coordination with one or more other governmental entities providing
 7-5 mobile programs; and
 7-6 (2) may be funded only with private gifts, grants, or
 7-7 donations.

7-8 SECTION 11. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
 7-9 amended by adding Section 61.0764 to read as follows:

7-10 Sec. 61.0764. ADULT BASIC EDUCATION PILOT PROGRAM. (a) In
 7-11 this section, "pilot program" means the adult basic education pilot
 7-12 program established under this section.

7-13 (b) Using funds appropriated for the purpose, the board by
 7-14 rule shall establish a pilot program under which participating
 7-15 junior college districts and public technical institutes receive
 7-16 funding to establish adult education programs that focus on:

- 7-17 (1) the provision of developmental education to
 7-18 support the transition from high school to college or a career; and
- 7-19 (2) dropout recovery.

7-20 (c) To participate in the pilot program, a junior college
 7-21 district or public technical institute must apply to the board in
 7-22 the manner prescribed by the board. The application must include a
 7-23 detailed plan developed by the junior college district or public
 7-24 technical institute for the district's or institute's adult
 7-25 education program. The board may select for participation in the
 7-26 pilot program those junior college districts and public technical
 7-27 institutes whose plans serve the purposes of the pilot program as
 7-28 determined by the board.

7-29 (d) The board may adopt rules necessary to administer this
 7-30 section.

7-31 SECTION 12. Subtitle G, Title 3, Education Code, is amended
 7-32 by adding Chapter 134 to read as follows:

7-33 CHAPTER 134. JOBS AND EDUCATION FOR TEXANS (JET) GRANT PROGRAM
 7-34 Sec. 134.001. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter, "public
 7-35 junior college" and "public technical institute" have the meanings
 7-36 assigned by Section 61.003.

7-37 Sec. 134.002. JOBS AND EDUCATION FOR TEXANS (JET) FUND.
 7-38 (a) The comptroller shall establish and administer the Jobs and
 7-39 Education for Texans (JET) fund as a dedicated account in the
 7-40 general revenue fund.

- 7-41 (b) The following amounts shall be deposited in the fund:
- 7-42 (1) any amounts appropriated by the legislature for
 7-43 the fund for purposes of this subchapter;
- 7-44 (2) interest earned on the investment of money in the
 7-45 fund; and
- 7-46 (3) gifts, grants, and other donations received for
 7-47 the fund.

7-48 Sec. 134.003. ADVISORY BOARD. (a) An advisory board of
 7-49 education and workforce stakeholders is created to assist the
 7-50 comptroller in administering this chapter.

7-51 (b) The advisory board is composed of seven members who
 7-52 serve two-year terms and are appointed as follows:

- 7-53 (1) one member appointed by the governor;
- 7-54 (2) one member appointed by the lieutenant governor;
- 7-55 (3) one member appointed by the speaker of the house of
 7-56 representatives;
- 7-57 (4) one member appointed by the Texas Higher Education
 7-58 Coordinating Board;
- 7-59 (5) one member appointed by the Texas Workforce
 7-60 Commission;
- 7-61 (6) one member of the public appointed by the
 7-62 comptroller; and
- 7-63 (7) the comptroller, who serves as the chairperson.

7-64 (c) The advisory board shall meet at least once each quarter
 7-65 to review received applications and recommend awarding grants under
 7-66 this subchapter.

7-67 Sec. 134.004. JOBS AND EDUCATION FOR TEXANS (JET) GRANT
 7-68 PROGRAM. The comptroller shall establish and administer the Jobs
 7-69 and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program to provide grants to

8-1 public junior colleges, public technical institutes, and eligible
8-2 nonprofit organizations that apply to the advisory board in the
8-3 manner prescribed by the advisory board. The comptroller shall
8-4 award the grants on the advice and recommendations of the advisory
8-5 board. Grants may be awarded under this subchapter from the JET
8-6 fund for the following purposes:

8-7 (1) to expand and support programs that meet the
8-8 requirements of Section 134.005 and that prepare low-income
8-9 students for careers in high-demand occupations;

8-10 (2) to defray the startup costs associated with the
8-11 development of new career and technical education programs that
8-12 meet the requirements of Section 134.006; and

8-13 (3) to provide scholarships for students in career and
8-14 technical education programs who meet the requirements of Section
8-15 134.007.

8-16 Sec. 134.005. GRANTS TO NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS FOR
8-17 INNOVATIVE AND SUCCESSFUL PROGRAMS. (a) The comptroller may award
8-18 a grant to a nonprofit organization eligible under Subsection (b)
8-19 for the development, support, or expansion of programs to prepare
8-20 low-income students for careers in high-demand occupations.

8-21 (b) To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a
8-22 nonprofit organization must:

8-23 (1) provide a program to offer assistance to
8-24 low-income students in preparing for, applying to, and enrolling in
8-25 a public junior college or public technical institute;

8-26 (2) be governed by a board or other governing
8-27 structure that includes recognized leaders of broad-based
8-28 community organizations and members of the local business
8-29 community;

8-30 (3) demonstrate to the satisfaction of the advisory
8-31 board that the organization's program has achieved or will achieve
8-32 the following measures of success among program participants, to
8-33 the extent applicable to the type of program the organization
8-34 provides:

8-35 (A) above average completion of developmental
8-36 education among participating public junior college or public
8-37 technical institute students;

8-38 (B) above average persistence rates among
8-39 participating public junior college or public technical institute
8-40 students;

8-41 (C) above average certificate or degree
8-42 completion rates by participating students within a three-year
8-43 period compared to demographically comparable public junior
8-44 college and public technical institute students; and

8-45 (D) employment of participating students at an
8-46 average full-time starting wage that is equal to or greater than the
8-47 prevailing wage for the occupation entered; and

8-48 (4) provide matching funds in accordance with rules
8-49 adopted under Section 134.008.

8-50 (c) The matching funds required under Subsection (b)(4) may
8-51 be obtained from any source available to the nonprofit
8-52 organization, including in-kind contributions, community or
8-53 foundation grants, individual contributions, and local
8-54 governmental agency operating funds.

8-55 (d) Grants awarded under this section must be awarded in a
8-56 manner that takes a balanced geographical distribution into
8-57 consideration.

8-58 Sec. 134.006. GRANTS TO EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR CAREER
8-59 AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAMS. (a) The comptroller may award a
8-60 grant for the development of new career and technical education
8-61 courses or programs at public junior colleges and public technical
8-62 institutes.

8-63 (b) A grant received under this section may be used only:

8-64 (1) to support courses or programs that prepare
8-65 students for career employment in occupations that are identified
8-66 by local businesses as being in high demand;

8-67 (2) to finance initial costs of career and technical
8-68 education course or program development, including the costs of
8-69 constructing or renovating facilities, purchasing equipment, and

9-1 other expenses associated with the development of a new course; and
9-2 (3) to finance a career and technical education course
9-3 or program that leads to a license, certificate, or postsecondary
9-4 degree.

9-5 (c) In awarding a grant under this section, the comptroller
9-6 shall primarily consider the potential economic returns to the
9-7 state from the development of the career and technical education
9-8 course or program, and may consider whether the course or program is
9-9 part of a new, emerging industry or high-demand occupation.

9-10 (d) To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a
9-11 public junior college or public technical institute must provide
9-12 matching funds in accordance with rules adopted under Section
9-13 134.008. The matching funds may be obtained from any source
9-14 available to the college, including in-kind contributions,
9-15 industry consortia, community or foundation grants, individual
9-16 contributions, and local governmental agency operating funds.

9-17 Sec. 134.007. SCHOLARSHIPS. (a) The comptroller may award
9-18 a scholarship to a public junior college or public technical
9-19 institute student.

9-20 (b) To be eligible to receive a scholarship under this
9-21 section, a student must:

9-22 (1) demonstrate financial need; and

9-23 (2) be enrolled in a training program for a
9-24 high-demand occupation, as determined by the comptroller on the
9-25 recommendation of the advisory board.

9-26 Sec. 134.008. RULES. The comptroller shall adopt rules as
9-27 necessary for the administration of this chapter.

9-28 SECTION 13. Subsection (b), Section 29.190, Education Code,
9-29 is repealed.

9-30 SECTION 14. The change in law made by this Act to Subsection
9-31 (a), Section 54.0065, Education Code, applies to a tuition rebate
9-32 regardless of the date a student enters a general academic teaching
9-33 institution as a first-time freshman.

9-34 SECTION 15. The change in law made by this Act to Subsection
9-35 (d), Section 61.0595, Education Code, applies beginning with the
9-36 funding recommendations made under Section 61.059, Education Code,
9-37 for the 2011-2012 academic year.

9-38 SECTION 16. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
9-39 shall adopt the rules required by Section 61.0764, Education Code,
9-40 as added by this Act, as soon as practicable after this Act takes
9-41 effect. For that purpose, the coordinating board may adopt the
9-42 initial rules in the manner provided by law for emergency rules.

9-43 SECTION 17. Sections 4, 5, and 6 of this Act apply beginning
9-44 with the 2009-2010 school year.

9-45 SECTION 18. This Act takes effect immediately if it
9-46 receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each
9-47 house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution.
9-48 If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate
9-49 effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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