

1-1 By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 1394  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 5, 2009; March 17, 2009, read  
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Higher Education;  
1-4 April 20, 2009, reported adversely, with favorable Committee  
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; April 20, 2009,  
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1394 By: Duncan

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to notification of an applicant for admission to a general  
1-11 academic teaching institution regarding the availability of degree  
1-12 programs in the applicant's preferred major field of study offered  
1-13 by other institutions.

1-14 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-15 SECTION 1. Subchapter S, Chapter 51, Education Code, is  
1-16 amended by adding Section 51.7635 to read as follows:

1-17 Sec. 51.7635. NOTIFICATION REGARDING DEGREE PROGRAMS  
1-18 OFFERED BY OTHER INSTITUTIONS IN APPLICANT'S PREFERRED MAJOR FIELD.

1-19 (a) The board by rule shall require that each applicant for  
1-20 admission to a general academic teaching institution who designates  
1-21 on the applicant's ApplyTexas online admission application form or  
1-22 other electronic application form applicable to all general  
1-23 academic teaching institutions one or more choices or preferences  
1-24 for the applicant's major field of study must promptly be  
1-25 redirected by the application website to a notification regarding  
1-26 the availability of degree programs in that field of study offered  
1-27 by general academic teaching institutions.

1-28 (b) The notification required by Subsection (a) must  
1-29 include a list of those general academic teaching institutions  
1-30 offering comparable degree programs in the applicant's designated  
1-31 field of study, and must provide the following information, or  
1-32 electronic links to the following information, for each  
1-33 institution:

1-34 (1) the institution's location and distance from the  
1-35 applicant's home zip code;

1-36 (2) a description of the programs offered by the  
1-37 institution in the applicant's designated major field of study;

1-38 (3) graduation and retention rate information for the  
1-39 institution; and

1-40 (4) any other information the board considers  
1-41 appropriate to assist the applicant in selecting among  
1-42 institutions.

1-43 (c) In addition to providing the notification required by  
1-44 Subsection (a), if a general academic teaching institution denies  
1-45 admission to any applicant who designated one or more choices or  
1-46 preferences for the applicant's major field of study on the  
1-47 applicant's admission application form described by Subsection  
1-48 (a), the institution shall include in its notice of denial a link to  
1-49 detailed information available on the application website  
1-50 regarding the availability of degree programs in that field of  
1-51 study offered by other general academic teaching institutions.

1-52 SECTION 2. Section 51.7635, Education Code, as added by  
1-53 this Act, applies beginning with applicants for admission to a  
1-54 general academic teaching institution for the 2011-2012 academic  
1-55 year.

1-56 SECTION 3. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
1-57 shall adopt the rules required by Section 51.7635, Education Code,  
1-58 as added by this Act, as soon as practicable after this Act takes  
1-59 effect. For that purpose, the coordinating board may adopt the  
1-60 initial rules in the manner provided by law for emergency rules.

1-61 SECTION 4. This Act does not make an appropriation. A  
1-62 provision in this Act that creates a new governmental program,  
1-63 creates a new entitlement, or imposes a new duty on a governmental

2-1 entity is not mandatory during a fiscal period for which the  
2-2 legislature has not made a specific appropriation to implement the  
2-3 provision.

2-4 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
2-5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2-6 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-8 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

2-9

\* \* \* \* \*