

By: Shapleigh

S.B. No. 1523

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to requiring satisfactory completion of a course in the
3 Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Green Building
4 Rating System as a requisite for a degree in architecture at certain
5 public institutions of higher education.

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

7 SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 51, Education Code, is
8 amended by adding Section 51.311 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 51.311. LEADERSHIP IN ENERGY AND ENVIRONMENTAL DESIGN
10 (LEED) COURSE REQUIRED. (a) An institution of higher education, as
11 defined by Section 61.003, that offers a degree program in
12 architecture:

13 (1) shall provide a course in the United States Green
14 Building Council's Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design
15 (LEED) Green Building Rating System as part of the degree program in
16 architecture; and

17 (2) may not award a degree in architecture to a student
18 who does not satisfactorily complete the course or an equivalent
19 course at another institution.

20 (b) A course provided under this section may focus on
21 preparing a student to earn the Leadership in Energy and
22 Environmental Design (LEED) Accredited Professional credential.

23 (c) This section does not apply to requirements for a degree
24 program in architecture for a student who entered the degree

1 program at an institution of higher education before the 2010 fall
2 semester. This subsection expires January 1, 2016.

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