

SENATE AMENDMENTS

2nd Printing

By: Kolckhorst, Christian, Aycock, et al.

H.B. No. 2504

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to requiring a public institution of higher education to make available to the public on the institution's Internet website certain undergraduate course information.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 51, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 51.974 to read as follows:

Sec. 51.974. INTERNET ACCESS TO COURSE INFORMATION. (a) Each institution of higher education, as defined by Section 61.003, shall make available to the public on the institution's Internet website the following information for each undergraduate classroom course offered for credit by the institution:

(1) a syllabus that:

(A) satisfies any standards adopted by the institution;

(B) provides a brief description of each major course requirement, including each major assignment and examination;

(C) lists any required or recommended reading;
and

(D) provides a general description of the subject matter of each lecture or discussion;

(2) a curriculum vitae of each regular instructor that lists the instructor's:

1 (A) postsecondary education;

2 (B) teaching experience; and

3 (C) significant professional publications; and

4 (3) if available, a departmental budget report of the
5 department under which the course is offered, from the most recent
6 semester or other academic term during which the institution
7 offered the course.

8 (a-1) A curriculum vitae made available on the
9 institution's Internet website under Subsection (a) may not include
10 any personal information, including the instructor's home address
11 or home telephone number.

12 (b) The information required by Subsection (a) must be:

13 (1) accessible from the institution's Internet website
14 home page by use of not more than three links;

15 (2) searchable by keywords and phrases; and

16 (3) accessible to the public without requiring
17 registration or use of a user name, a password, or another user
18 identification.

19 (c) The institution shall make the information required by
20 Subsection (a) available not later than the seventh day after the
21 first day of classes for the semester or other academic term during
22 which the course is offered. The institution shall continue to make
23 the information available on the institution's Internet website
24 until at least the fourth anniversary of the date on which the
25 institution initially posted the information.

26 (d) The institution shall update the information required
27 by Subsection (a) as soon as practicable after the information

1 changes.

2 (e) The governing body of the institution shall designate an
3 administrator to be responsible for ensuring implementation of this
4 section. The administrator may assign duties under this section to
5 one or more administrative employees.

6 (f) Not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year, each
7 institution of higher education shall submit a written report
8 regarding the institution's compliance with this section to the
9 governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of
10 representatives, and the presiding officer of each legislative
11 standing committee with primary jurisdiction over higher
12 education.

13 (g) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board may adopt
14 rules necessary to administer this section.

15 SECTION 2. Section 51.974, Education Code, as added by this
16 Act, applies beginning with the 2010 fall semester.

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

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. 1

BY: Robert Duncan

1 Amend H.B. 2504 (senate committee report) in SECTION 1 of
2 the bill in added Section 51.974, Education Code, (page 1, line
3 15), strike "Each institution of higher education" and substitute
4 "Each institution of higher education, other than a medical and
5 dental unit,".

ADOPTED

MAY 27 2009

Lotay Spauld
Secretary of the Senate

ADOPTED

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. 2

MAY 27 2009

BY: Robert Duncan

Atty Gen
~~Secretary of the Senate~~

1 Amend H.B. 2504 (senate ~~committee~~ report) in SECTION 1 of
2 the bill in added Section 51.974, Education Code, (page 1, line
3 54), strike "fourth" and substitute "second".

ADOPTED

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. 3

MAY 27 2009

BY: Robert Duncan

Arlene Spaw
Secretary of the Senate

1 Amend House Bill 2504 (Senate Committee Printing) in
2 SECTION 1 of the bill, by adding the following and renumbering
3 accordingly:

4 Institutions of higher education included in this section
5 shall conduct end of course student evaluations of faculty and
6 develop a plan to make evaluations available on the
7 institution's website.

ADOPTED

MAY 27 2009

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. 4

BY: Atty Gen
Secretary of the Senate

Thurley D. Watson

1 Amend H.B. 2504 by adding the following appropriately
2 numbered SECTION to the bill and renumbering subsequent SECTIONS
3 of the bill as appropriate:

4 SECTION __. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
5 amended by adding Section 61.0777 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 61.0777. UNIFORM STANDARDS FOR PUBLICATION OF COST OF
7 ATTENDANCE INFORMATION. (a) The board shall prescribe uniform
8 standards intended to ensure that information regarding the cost
9 of attendance at institutions of higher education is available
10 to the public in a manner that is consumer-friendly and readily
11 understandable to prospective students and their families. In
12 developing the standards, the board shall examine common and
13 recommended practices regarding the publication of such
14 information and shall solicit recommendations and comments from
15 institutions of higher education and interested private or
16 independent institutions of higher education.

17 (b) The uniform standards must:

18 (1) address all of the elements that constitute the
19 total cost of attendance, including tuition and fees, room and
20 board costs, book and supply costs, transportation costs, and
21 other personal expenses; and

22 (2) prescribe model language to be used to describe
23 each element of the cost of attendance.

24 (c) Each institution of higher education that offers an
25 undergraduate degree or certificate program shall:

26 (1) prominently display on the institution's Internet
27 website in accordance with the uniform standards prescribed
28 under this section information regarding the cost of attendance
29 at the institution by a full-time entering first-year student;

1 and

2 (2) conform to the uniform standards in any
3 electronic or printed materials intended to provide to
4 prospective undergraduate students information regarding the
5 cost of attendance at the institution.

6 (d) Each institution of higher education shall consider
7 the uniform standards prescribed under this section when
8 providing information to the public or to prospective students
9 regarding the cost of attendance at the institution by
10 nonresident students, graduate students, or students enrolled in
11 professional programs.

12 (e) The board shall prescribe requirements for an
13 institution of higher education to provide on the institution's
14 Internet website consumer-friendly and readily understandable
15 information regarding student financial aid opportunities. The
16 required information must be provided in connection with the
17 information displayed under Subsection (c)(1) and must include a
18 link to the primary federal student financial aid Internet
19 website intended to assist persons applying for student
20 financial aid.

21 (f) The board shall provide on the board's Internet
22 website a program or similar tool that will compute for a person
23 accessing the website the estimated net cost of attendance for a
24 full-time entering first-year student attending an institution
25 of higher education. The board shall require each institution
26 to provide the board with the information the board requires to
27 administer this subsection.

28 (g) The board shall prescribe the initial standards and
29 requirements under this section not later than January 1, 2010.
30 Institutions of higher education shall comply with the standards
31 and requirements not later than April 1, 2010. This subsection

1 expires January 1, 2011.

2 (h) The board shall encourage private or independent
3 institutions of higher education approved under Subchapter F to
4 participate in the tuition equalization grant program, to the
5 greatest extent practicable, to prominently display the
6 information described by Subsections (a) and (b) on their
7 Internet websites in accordance with the standards established
8 under those subsections, and to conform to those standards in
9 electronic and printed materials intended to provide to
10 prospective undergraduate students information regarding the
11 cost of attendance at the institutions. The board shall also
12 encourage those institutions to include on their Internet
13 websites a link to the primary federal student financial aid
14 Internet website intended to assist persons applying for student
15 financial aid.

16 (i) The board shall make the program or tool described by
17 Subsection (f) available to private or independent institutions
18 of higher education described by Subsection (h), and those
19 institutions shall make that program or tool, or another program
20 or tool that complies with the requirements for the net price
21 calculator required under Section 132(h)(3), Higher Education
22 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. Section 1015a), available on their
23 Internet websites not later than the date by which the
24 institutions are required by Section 132(h)(3) to make the net
25 price calculator publicly available on their Internet websites.

MAY 27 2009

1 Amend H.B. No. 2504 by adding the following sections to the
2 bill, numbered appropriately, and by renumbering any subsequent
3 sections of the bill accordingly:

4 SECTION _____. Subchapter E, Chapter 56, Education Code, is
5 amended by adding Section 56.080 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 56.080. ONLINE LIST OF WORK-STUDY EMPLOYMENT
7 OPPORTUNITIES. Each institution of higher education shall:

8 (1) establish and maintain an online list of work-
9 study employment opportunities, sorted by department as
10 appropriate, available to students on the institution's campus;
11 and

12 (2) ensure that the list is easily accessible to the
13 public through a clearly identifiable link that appears in a
14 prominent place on the financial aid page of the institution's
15 Internet website.

16 SECTION _____. As soon as practicable after the effective
17 date of this Act, each public institution of higher education
18 shall establish an online list of work-study employment
19 opportunities for students as required by Section 56.080,
20 Education Code, as added by this Act.

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

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 28, 2009

TO: Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2504 by Kolkhorst (Relating to requiring a public institution of higher education to make available to the public on the institution's Internet website certain undergraduate course information.), **As Passed 2nd House**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

Under provisions of the bill, each institution of higher education other than medical and dental schools would be required to make available to the public on its website a course syllabus, a curriculum vitae of each regular instructor, and a departmental budget report for each undergraduate classroom course offered. The information must be accessible from the institution's website by use of not more than three links, searchable by keywords and phrases, and accessible to the public without requiring registration or use of user identification.

The information must be available not later than the seventh day after the first day of classes, and must remain available on the institution's website for at least two years. The governing board of each institution will be required to designate an administrator to be responsible for ensuring implementation of these provisions and the institutions would be required to submit a compliance report not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year. They would be required to conduct end of course student evaluations of faculty and develop a plan to make the evaluations available on their websites.

In addition, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board would be required to provide uniform standards to ensure that information regarding the cost of attendance at institutions of higher education is available to the public in a manner that is consumer-friendly and readily understandable to prospective students and their families. The Higher Education Coordinating Board would encourage, but not require, private or independent institutions of higher education approved to participate in the tuition equalization grant program to comply with provisions of the bill.

Under other provisions, each institution of higher education would be required to establish and maintain an online list of work-study employment opportunities, sorted by department as appropriate, available to students on the institution's campus and ensure that the list is easily accessible to the public through a clearly identifiable link that appears in a prominent place on the financial aid page of the institution's Internet website.

It is assumed the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board and institutions of higher education would be able to absorb any costs associated with implementing the provisions of the bill within existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board, 710 Texas A&M University System Administrative and General Offices, 720 The University of Texas System Administration, 758 Texas State University System, 768 Texas Tech University System

Administration, 769 University of North Texas System Administration, 783 University
of Houston System Administration

LBB Staff: JOB, KK, RT, SSh

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 12, 2009

TO: Honorable Judith Zaffirini, Chair, Senate Committee on Higher Education

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2504 by Kolkhorst (Relating to requiring a public institution of higher education to make available to the public on the institution's Internet website certain undergraduate course information.), **As Engrossed**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

Under provisions of the bill, each institution of higher education would be required to make available to the public on its website a course syllabus, a curriculum vitae of each regular instructor, and a departmental budget report for each undergraduate classroom course offered. The information must be accessible from the institution's website by use of not more than three links, searchable by keywords and phrases, and accessible to the public without requiring registration or use of user identification. The information must be available not later than the seventh day after the first day of classes, and must remain available on the institution's website for at least four years. The governing board of each institution will be required to designate an administrator to be responsible for ensuring implementation of these provisions.

Institutions of higher education would be required to submit a compliance report not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year. It is assumed that institutions have already implemented provisions of this bill or could do so within existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board, 710 Texas A&M University System Administrative and General Offices, 720 The University of Texas System Administration, 758 Texas State University System, 768 Texas Tech University System Administration, 769 University of North Texas System Administration, 783 University of Houston System Administration

LBB Staff: JOB, KK, RT, SSh

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 24, 2009

TO: Honorable Dan Branch, Chair, House Committee on Higher Education

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB2504** by Kolkhorst (relating to requiring a public institution of higher education to make available to the public on the institution's Internet website certain undergraduate course information.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

<p>No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.</p>
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Under provisions of the bill, each institution of higher education would be required to make available to the public on its website a course syllabus, a curriculum vitae of each regular instructor, and a departmental budget report for each undergraduate classroom course offered. The information must be accessible from the institution's website by use of not more than three links, searchable by keywords and phrases, and accessible to the public without requiring registration or use of user identification. The information must be available not later than the seventh day after the first day of classes, and must remain available on the institution's website for at least four years. The governing board of each institution will be required to designate an administrator to be responsible for ensuring implementation of these provisions.

Institutions of higher education would be required to submit a compliance report not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year. It is assumed that institutions have already implemented provisions of this bill or could do so within existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board, 710 Texas A&M University System Administrative and General Offices, 720 The University of Texas System Administration, 758 Texas State University System, 768 Texas Tech University System Administration, 769 University of North Texas System Administration, 783 University of Houston System Administration

LBB Staff: JOB, KK, RT, SSh

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 31, 2009

TO: Honorable Dan Branch, Chair, House Committee on Higher Education

FROM: John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB2504** by Kolkhorst (Relating to requiring a public institution of higher education to make available to the public on the institution's Internet website certain course information; authorizing a penalty.), **As Introduced**

Estimated Two-year Net Impact to General Revenue Related Funds for HB2504, As Introduced: a negative impact of (\$528.192) through the biennium ending August 31, 2011.

General Revenue-Related Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Net Positive/(Negative) Impact to General Revenue Related Funds
2010	(\$286,585)
2011	(\$241,607)
2012	(\$241,607)
2013	(\$241,607)
2014	(\$241,607)

All Funds, Five-Year Impact:

Fiscal Year	Probable Savings/(Cost) from General Revenue Fund 1	Change in Number of State Employees from FY 2009
2010	(\$286,585)	4.0
2011	(\$241,607)	4.0
2012	(\$241,607)	4.0
2013	(\$241,607)	4.0
2014	(\$241,607)	4.0

Fiscal Analysis

Under provisions of the bill, each institution of higher education would be required to make available to the public on its website a course syllabus, a curriculum vitae of each regular instructor, and a course budget report (if available) for each classroom course offered. The information must be accessible from the institution's website by use of not more than three links, searchable by keywords and phrases, and accessible to the public without requiring registration or use of user identification. The information must be available not later than the seventh day after the first day of classes, and must remain available on the institution's website for at least five years. The governing board of each institution will be required to designate an administrator to be responsible for ensuring implementation of these provisions.

In addition, the Higher Education Coordinating Board is required to adopt rules under which it may impose a penalty against the responsible administrator of an institution who knowingly violates these provisions.

Methodology

It is assumed that institutions of higher education have already implemented provisions of this bill or could do so within existing resources.

In order for the Higher Education Coordinating Board to implement provisions of the bill, it will need a total of four FTEs, including two FTEs at the Data Analyst IV level to perform random checks, one Administrative Assistant FTE, and 1 FTE Assistant General Counsel. Total cost for fiscal year 2010 would be \$286,585 primarily for salaries and benefits associated with these new FTEs.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 710 Texas A&M University System Administrative and General Offices, 720 The University of Texas System Administration, 758 Texas State University System, 768 Texas Tech University System Administration, 769 University of North Texas System Administration, 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board, 783 University of Houston System Administration

LBB Staff: JOB, KK, RT, SSh

