

BILL ANALYSIS

S.B. 633
By: Hinojosa
Higher Education
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi was integrated into The Texas A&M University System in 1989, as an "upper-level" institution. This limited the scope of the university to junior, senior, and graduate-level students with a limited freshman and sophomore class.

In 1991, S.B. 232 amended Section 87.401 (Establishment; Scope), Education Code, by repealing Subsection (c), thus eliminating the restriction of the university to junior, senior, and graduate-level students. S.B. 232 deleted the first two references to "upper-level" in Subsection (a) and the only reference to "upper-level" in Section 87.402 (Courses and Degrees; Rules; Joint Appointments), Education Code. However, a reference to "upper-level" in Section 87.401(a) (relating to the designation that Texas A&M--Corpus Christi is a component of Texas A&M University System), Education Code, was not deleted.

In 1997, the restrictions on freshman and sophomore acceptance rates were also repealed. S.B. 633 would delete the remaining reference to "upper-level" and replace it with "Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi," eliminating any discrepancy about the classification of the university in the Education Code.

As proposed, S.B. 633 amends current law relating to the educational scope of Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 87.401, Education Code, as follows:

Sec. 87.401. ESTABLISHMENT; SCOPE. (a) Provides that Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi is a general academic teaching institution, rather than a coeducational educational institution, located in the city of Corpus Christi.

(b) Creates this subsection from existing text. Provides that Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi, rather than the upper level institution, is a component institution of The Texas A&M University System and is under the management and control of the board of regents of The Texas A&M University System.

(c) Redesignates existing Subsection (b) as Subsection (c). Provides that the board has the same powers and duties concerning Texas A&M University--Corpus Christi as are conferred on the board by statute concerning Texas A&M University. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2011.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Upon passage, or, if the Act does not receive the necessary vote, the Act takes effect September 1, 2011.