

By: Branch

H.B. No. 2630

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the formal recognition of The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center and to administration of the health institutions and programs of the system.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle D, Title 3, Education Code, is amended by adding Chapter 89 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 89. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE CENTER

SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 89.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Board" means the board of regents of The Texas A&M University System.

(2) "Coordinating board" means the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.

(3) "Health science center" means The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center.

Sec. 89.002. COMPOSITION. The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center is composed of the following component institutions, agencies, and programs under the management and control of the board of regents of The Texas A&M University System:

(1) The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center College of Medicine;

(2) The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center Baylor College of Dentistry;

1           (3) The Texas A&M University System Health Science  
2 Center School of Rural Public Health;

3           (4) The Texas A&M University System Health Science  
4 Center Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy;

5           (5) The Texas A&M University System Health Science  
6 Center College of Nursing;

7           (6) The Texas A&M University System Health Science  
8 Center School of Graduate Studies;

9           (7) The Texas A&M University System Health Science  
10 Center Institute of Biosciences and Technology;

11           (8) The Texas A&M University System Health Science  
12 Center Coastal Bend Health Education Center;

13           (9) The Texas A&M University System Health Science  
14 Center Rural and Community Health Institute; and

15           (10) other schools, colleges, institutes, and  
16 agencies assigned to the health science center, provided that those  
17 schools, colleges, institutes, and agencies may also be dissolved,  
18 merged, or eliminated in the same manner in which they were  
19 assigned.

20           Sec. 89.003. JOINT APPOINTMENTS. (a) A person may be  
21 appointed to serve the health science center and its component  
22 institutions and one or more other institutions in The Texas A&M  
23 University System.

24           (b) The salary of a person who receives a joint appointment  
25 under this section must be apportioned among the institutions to  
26 which the person is appointed on the basis of the services rendered.

27           Sec. 89.004. ACQUISITION OF GOODS AND SERVICES. (a) The

1 health science center and its component institutions may acquire  
2 goods or services by the method that provides the best value to the  
3 center or component institution, including:

- 4 (1) competitive bidding;
- 5 (2) competitive sealed proposals;
- 6 (3) catalog purchase;
- 7 (4) a group purchasing program; or
- 8 (5) an open market contract.

9 (b) In determining what is the best value to the health  
10 science center or a component institution, the center shall  
11 consider:

- 12 (1) the purchase price;
- 13 (2) the reputation of the vendor and of the vendor's  
14 goods or services;
- 15 (3) the quality of the vendor's goods or services;
- 16 (4) the extent to which the goods or services meet the  
17 center's or component institution's needs;
- 18 (5) the vendor's past relationship with the center or a  
19 component institution;
- 20 (6) the impact on the ability of the center or  
21 component institution to comply with applicable laws relating to  
22 historically underutilized businesses;
- 23 (7) the total long-term cost to the center or  
24 component institution of acquiring the vendor's goods or services;  
25 and
- 26 (8) any other relevant factor that a private business  
27 entity would consider in selecting a vendor.

1       (c) The state auditor may audit purchases of goods or  
2 services by the health science center and its component  
3 institutions.

4       (d) The health science center may adopt rules and procedures  
5 for the acquisition of goods or services.

6       (e) To the extent of any conflict, this section prevails  
7 over any other law relating to the purchase of goods and services  
8 except a law relating to contracting with historically  
9 underutilized businesses.

10       (f) Except as otherwise provided by this section, Subtitle  
11 D, Title 10, Government Code, and Chapter 2254, Government Code, do  
12 not apply to the purchase of goods and services by the health  
13 science center and its component institutions.

14       Sec. 89.005. EXPENDITURE OF STATE FUNDS. The board is  
15 authorized to expend funds appropriated to it by the legislature  
16 for all lawful purposes of the health science center and its  
17 component institutions as well as funds available under the  
18 authority of Section 18, Article VII, Texas Constitution, for the  
19 purposes expressed in that section for the support of the health  
20 science center and its component institutions.

21       Sec. 89.006. GIFTS AND GRANTS. The board may solicit,  
22 accept, and administer, on terms and conditions satisfactory to the  
23 board, grants or gifts of property in aid of the planning,  
24 establishment, conduct, and operation of the health science center  
25 and its component institutions and in aid of research and teaching  
26 at the health science center and its component institutions. The  
27 board may accept from the federal government or any foundation,

1 trust fund, corporation, or individual donations, gifts, and  
2 grants, including real property, libraries, laboratories,  
3 equipment, records, or money for the use and benefit of the health  
4 science center and its component institutions.

5 [Sections 89.007-89.050 reserved for expansion]

6 SUBCHAPTER B. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE

7 CENTER COLLEGE OF MEDICINE

8 Sec. 89.051. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE  
9 CENTER COLLEGE OF MEDICINE. The board shall maintain The Texas A&M  
10 University System Health Science Center College of Medicine as a  
11 component institution of the health science center.

12 Sec. 89.052. SCOPE; DEGREE PROGRAMS; RULES. (a) The board  
13 may prescribe courses leading to customary degrees offered in other  
14 leading American medical colleges and award those degrees, and may  
15 adopt other rules for the operation, control, and management of the  
16 school, including the determination of the number of students  
17 admitted to any degree program, that are necessary for the  
18 operation of a professional school of the first class.

19 (b) The board may authorize programs in graduate medical  
20 education leading to certifications in recognized medical  
21 specialties.

22 Sec. 89.053. AGREEMENTS. The board may execute and carry  
23 out with any entity or institution affiliation or coordinating  
24 agreements that are reasonably necessary or desirable for the  
25 operation of a professional school of the first class.

26 [Sections 89.054-89.100 reserved for expansion]

27 SUBCHAPTER C. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE

1                   CENTER BAYLOR COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY

2           Sec. 89.101. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE  
3 CENTER BAYLOR COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY. The board shall maintain The  
4 Texas A&M University System Health Science Center Baylor College of  
5 Dentistry as a component institution of the health science center.

6           Sec. 89.102. SCOPE; DEGREE PROGRAMS; RULES. (a) The board  
7 may prescribe courses leading to customary degrees offered by other  
8 leading American dental schools and award those degrees, and may  
9 adopt other rules for the operation, control, and management of the  
10 school, including the determination of the number of students  
11 admitted to any degree program, that are necessary for the  
12 operation of a professional school of the first class.

13           (b) The board may authorize programs in graduate dental  
14 education leading to certifications in recognized dental  
15 specialties.

16           Sec. 89.103. AGREEMENTS. The board may execute and carry  
17 out with any entity or institution affiliation or coordinating  
18 agreements that are reasonably necessary or desirable for the  
19 operation of a professional school of the first class.

20           [Sections 89.104-89.150 reserved for expansion]

21           SUBCHAPTER D. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE

22                   CENTER SCHOOL OF RURAL PUBLIC HEALTH

23           Sec. 89.151. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE  
24 CENTER SCHOOL OF RURAL PUBLIC HEALTH. The board shall maintain The  
25 Texas A&M University System Health Science Center School of Rural  
26 Public Health as a component institution of the health science  
27 center.

1       Sec. 89.152. SCOPE; DEGREE PROGRAMS; RULES. The board may  
2 prescribe courses leading to customary degrees offered in other  
3 leading American schools of public health and award those degrees,  
4 and may adopt other rules for the operation, control, and  
5 management of the school, including the determination of the number  
6 and nationality of students admitted to any degree program, that  
7 are necessary for the operation of a professional school of the  
8 first class.

9       Sec. 89.153. AGREEMENTS. The board may execute and carry  
10 out with any entity or institution affiliation or coordinating  
11 agreements that are reasonably necessary or desirable for the  
12 operation of a professional school of the first class.

13       [Sections 89.154-89.200 reserved for expansion]

14       SUBCHAPTER E. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE

15               CENTER IRMA LERMA RANGEL COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

16       Sec. 89.201. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE  
17 CENTER IRMA LERMA RANGEL COLLEGE OF PHARMACY. (a) The board shall  
18 maintain a college of pharmacy as a component of the health science  
19 center.

20               (b) The college shall be known as The Texas A&M University  
21 System Health Science Center Irma Lerma Rangel College of Pharmacy,  
22 and the primary building in which the school is operated in Kleberg  
23 County must include "Irma Rangel" in its official name.

24       Sec. 89.202. SCOPE; DEGREE PROGRAMS; RULES. The board may  
25 prescribe courses leading to customary degrees offered at other  
26 leading American schools of pharmacy and award those degrees, and  
27 may adopt other rules for the operation, control, and management of

1 the school, including the determination of the number of students  
2 admitted to any degree program, that are necessary for the  
3 operation of a professional school of the first class.

4 Sec. 89.203. AGREEMENTS. The board may execute and carry  
5 out with any entity or institution affiliation or coordinating  
6 agreements that are reasonably necessary or desirable for the  
7 operation of a professional school of the first class.

8 [Sections 89.204-89.250 reserved for expansion]

9 SUBCHAPTER F. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE

10 CENTER COLLEGE OF NURSING

11 Sec. 89.251. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE  
12 CENTER COLLEGE OF NURSING. The board shall maintain The Texas A&M  
13 University System Health Science Center College of Nursing as a  
14 component institution of the health science center.

15 Sec. 89.252. SCOPE; DEGREE PROGRAMS; RULES. The board may  
16 prescribe courses leading to customary degrees offered in other  
17 leading American schools of nursing and award those degrees, and  
18 may adopt other rules for the operation, control, and management of  
19 the school, including the determination of the number of students  
20 admitted to any degree program, that are necessary for the  
21 operation of a professional school of the first class.

22 Sec. 89.253. AGREEMENTS. The board may execute and carry  
23 out with any entity or institution affiliation or coordinating  
24 agreements that are reasonably necessary or desirable for the  
25 operation of a professional school of the first class.

26 [Sections 89.254-89.300 reserved for expansion]



1 SUBCHAPTER G. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE

2 CENTER SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES

3 Sec. 89.301. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE  
4 CENTER SCHOOL OF GRADUATE STUDIES. The board shall maintain The  
5 Texas A&M University System Health Science Center School of  
6 Graduate Studies as a component institution of the health science  
7 center.

8 Sec. 89.302. SCOPE; DEGREE PROGRAMS; RULES. (a) The board  
9 may prescribe courses and conduct graduate and postdoctoral degree  
10 programs at the master's and doctoral levels in the health sciences  
11 and other academic areas directly related to medical education and  
12 research.

13 (b) The board may adopt rules necessary for the operation,  
14 control, and management of the graduate school.

15 Sec. 89.303. AGREEMENTS. The board may execute and carry  
16 out with any entity or institution affiliation or coordinating  
17 agreements that are reasonably necessary or desirable for the  
18 operation of a professional school of the first class.

19 [Sections 89.304-89.350 reserved for expansion]

20 SUBCHAPTER H. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE

21 CENTER INSTITUTE OF BIOSCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY

22 Sec. 89.351. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE  
23 CENTER INSTITUTE OF BIOSCIENCES AND TECHNOLOGY. The board shall  
24 maintain the Institute of Biosciences and Technology as a component  
25 institution of the health science center.

26 Sec. 89.352. PURPOSE. The purposes, objectives, and duties  
27 of the institute are to:

1           (1) conduct pioneering life science research that  
2 encourages the development of new technologies of importance for  
3 human health care;

4           (2) provide national leadership in scientific areas  
5 such as animal and human genetics that will result in advances in  
6 the treatment and prevention of human diseases; and

7           (3) establish interdisciplinary programs with other  
8 research institutions in this state that will provide a technology  
9 and education base to strengthen state industries in biotechnology  
10 and related areas and attract new biotechnology-based industries to  
11 this state.

12           Sec. 89.353. AGREEMENTS. In fulfilling its purposes,  
13 objectives, and duties, the institute may enter into agreements and  
14 cooperate with private and public research entities.

15           [Sections 89.354-89.400 reserved for expansion]

16           SUBCHAPTER I. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE

17                   CENTER COASTAL BEND HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER

18           Sec. 89.401. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE  
19 CENTER COASTAL BEND HEALTH EDUCATION CENTER. The board shall  
20 maintain The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center  
21 Coastal Bend Health Education Center as a component institution of  
22 the health science center.

23           Sec. 89.402. SCOPE; PROGRAMS. (a) The health education  
24 center may develop and provide community-based instructional sites  
25 for the education of health care professionals and the delivery of  
26 health education outreach programs.

27           (b) The health education center may develop programs to

1 address health care workforce shortages and health-related issues  
2 particularly endemic to the coastal bend region.

3 (c) The health education center may operate educational  
4 facilities located throughout the coastal bend area as determined  
5 by the board.

6 (d) The health education center may be used to provide  
7 undergraduate clinical education, graduate education, or other  
8 levels of health care education work, including work in the areas  
9 related to the education of medical, dental, nursing, public  
10 health, or other health-related professionals, in the region served  
11 by the health education center in connection with any component  
12 institution or institutions of The Texas A&M University System as  
13 the board determines appropriate.

14 (e) The health education center may:

15 (1) use community outreach programs to provide persons  
16 receiving education at the health education center with any  
17 necessary experience; and

18 (2) conduct research programs related to:

19 (A) areas in which education or outreach programs  
20 are provided by the health education center; or

21 (B) public health issues arising in or prevalent  
22 in the region served by the health education center.

23 [Sections 89.403-89.450 reserved for expansion]

24 SUBCHAPTER J. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE

25 CENTER RURAL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH INSTITUTE

26 Sec. 89.451. THE TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY SYSTEM HEALTH SCIENCE

27 CENTER RURAL AND COMMUNITY HEALTH INSTITUTE. The board shall

1 maintain The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center  
2 Rural and Community Health Institute as an agency in the health  
3 science center.

4 Sec. 89.452. SCOPE; PURPOSE (a) The institute shall serve  
5 as an extension center to assist health care providers at the point  
6 of care with a broad range of support, including continuing medical  
7 education, information about new and innovative health care  
8 techniques and services, and other information and assistance  
9 intended to assure the best available health care throughout this  
10 state with particular emphasis on rural locations.

11 (b) The institute shall facilitate coordination and  
12 enhancement of rural and community health care services, including  
13 medical professional peer review.

14 (c) The institute may include any public and private  
15 medical, dental, nursing, or other health care or educational  
16 institutions in the programs coordinated or administered by the  
17 institute.

18 (d) The institute may plan, oversee, and evaluate training  
19 and retraining programs and curricula for medical professionals.

20 Sec. 89.453. AGREEMENTS. The board may execute and carry  
21 out affiliation or coordination agreements with any educational or  
22 health-related entity or institution, including a traditional or  
23 other health service provider, to establish or participate in the  
24 operation of the institute.

25 SECTION 2. Section 61.003(5), Education Code, is amended to  
26 read as follows:

27 (5) "Medical and dental unit" means The Texas A&M

1 University Health Science Center and its component institutions,  
2 institutes, and agencies; The University of Texas Medical Branch at  
3 Galveston; The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at  
4 Dallas; The University of Texas Medical School at San Antonio; The  
5 University of Texas Dental Branch at Houston; The University of  
6 Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center; The University of Texas  
7 Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences at Houston; The University  
8 of Texas Dental School at San Antonio; The University of Texas  
9 Medical School at Houston; The University of Texas Health Science  
10 Center--South Texas and its component institutions, if established  
11 under Subchapter N, Chapter 74; the nursing institutions of The  
12 Texas A&M University System and The University of Texas System; and  
13 The University of Texas School of Public Health at Houston; and such  
14 other medical or dental schools as may be established by statute or  
15 as provided in this chapter.

16 SECTION 3. The following are repealed:

17 (1) Subchapters D, F, G, and H, Chapter 86, Education  
18 Code; and

19 (2) Subchapter I, Chapter 87, Education Code.

20 SECTION 4. As soon as practicable after this Act takes  
21 effect, the board of regents of The Texas A&M University System  
22 shall adopt a transition plan for the orderly implementation of  
23 this Act. In adopting and implementing the plan, the board may  
24 transfer personnel, obligations, property, and money, including  
25 appropriations, within the system, as the board considers  
26 appropriate to implement this Act.

27 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

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1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.