

1-1 By: Zaffirini S.B. No. 1730
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 11, 2011; March 23, 2011, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Higher Education;
1-4 April 19, 2011, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; April 19, 2011,
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1730 By: Zaffirini

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

1-10 relating to requiring the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
1-11 to create a tool to allow prospective students to compare general
1-12 academic teaching institutions by certain criteria.

1-13 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-14 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
1-15 amended by adding Section 61.09021 to read as follows:

1-16 Sec. 61.09021. COMPARISON TOOL. (a) The board shall make
1-17 available to the public on the board's Internet website a search
1-18 tool that allows a person to compare general academic teaching
1-19 institutions that meet certain criteria selected by the person,
1-20 including offering a particular major or program of study.

1-21 (b) The comparison tool required under this section must:

1-22 (1) be accessible from the board's Internet website;

1-23 (2) allow a user to identify general academic teaching
1-24 institutions according to selection criteria as determined by the
1-25 board; and

1-26 (3) be accessible to the public without requiring
1-27 registration or use of a user name, password, or other user
1-28 identification.

1-29 (c) The comparison tool required under this section must
1-30 generate a comparison chart in a grid format that:

1-31 (1) lists the general academic teaching institutions
1-32 that match a user's search criteria; and

1-33 (2) provides information for each institution listed
1-34 that the board has determined would aid a prospective student in
1-35 evaluating the institution.

1-36 (d) The Internet page displaying the comparison chart must
1-37 include a link to the Internet website of the Texas Workforce
1-38 Commission.

1-39 (e) To the extent practicable, the information provided
1-40 under Subsection (c) must consist of information that a general
1-41 academic teaching institution is required to report to the board
1-42 under another provision of law, including board rule.

1-43 (f) Each general academic teaching institution shall
1-44 provide to the board the information to be provided under
1-45 Subsection (c) not later than October 1, or a date determined by the
1-46 board, of each year. The board shall update the comparison tool as
1-47 soon as practicable after receiving information from each
1-48 institution.

1-49 SECTION 2. Not later than February 1, 2013, the Texas Higher
1-50 Education Coordinating Board shall create and post on the board's
1-51 Internet website the comparison tool required by Section 61.09021,
1-52 Education Code, as added by this Act.

1-53 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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