

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the creation of a commission to identify future higher  
3 education and workforce needs of this state and make related  
4 recommendations to address those needs by the state's bicentennial.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subtitle F, Title 4, Government Code, is amended  
7 by adding Chapter 490F to read as follows:

8 CHAPTER 490F. TEXAS 2036 COMMISSION

9 Sec. 490F.001. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "commission"  
10 means the Texas 2036 Commission.

11 Sec. 490F.002. CREATION OF COMMISSION; COMPOSITION. (a)  
12 The Texas 2036 Commission is created.

13 (b) The commission is composed of the following members:

14 (1) the presiding officer of each legislative standing  
15 committee with primary jurisdiction over higher education;

16 (2) the commissioner of higher education;

17 (3) the chair of the Texas Higher Education  
18 Coordinating Board;

19 (4) the chair of the Texas Workforce Commission;

20 (5) the chair of a governing board of an institution of  
21 higher education appointed by the governor;

22 (6) a trustee of a public junior college district  
23 appointed by the governor;

24 (7) two persons possessing experience in the field of

1 higher education appointed by the lieutenant governor; and

2 (8) two persons appointed by the speaker of the house  
3 of representatives, one of whom must possess experience in the  
4 field of higher education.

5 (c) Appointed members of the commission serve for two years  
6 and may be reappointed.

7 (d) Appointments to the commission shall be made without  
8 regard to the race, color, disability, sex, religion, age, or  
9 national origin of the appointee.

10 (e) A vacancy in an appointed office of the commission shall  
11 be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

12 Sec. 490F.003. OFFICERS. The commission shall elect one of  
13 its members to serve as chair for a term of two years. The chair is  
14 entitled to vote on all matters before the commission.

15 Sec. 490F.004. COMPENSATION. A member of the commission  
16 serves without compensation but is entitled to reimbursement for  
17 actual and necessary expenses incurred in performing functions as a  
18 member of the commission, subject to any applicable limitation on  
19 reimbursement provided by the General Appropriations Act.

20 Sec. 490F.005. MEETINGS. The commission shall meet at the  
21 call of the chair and as provided by commission rule.

22 Sec. 490F.006. POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMISSION. (a) The  
23 commission may adopt rules as necessary for its procedures.

24 (b) The commission, with an emphasis on the changing  
25 demographics of this state, shall:

26 (1) assess and identify future higher education and  
27 workforce needs in the state and the state's ability to meet those

1 needs; and

2 (2) develop recommendations for meeting those needs by  
3 the state's bicentennial in 2036, including recommendations for  
4 achieving the following goals by that date:

5 (A) attaining a state workforce in which at least  
6 60 percent of its workers hold a postsecondary credential,  
7 certificate, or degree of value in the workplace;

8 (B) increasing by at least three the number of  
9 institutions of higher education designated as research  
10 institutions under the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's  
11 accountability system;

12 (C) ensuring the alignment of workforce  
13 development with higher education in this state;

14 (D) increasing the college-attending population  
15 in this state to a level that is comparable to the best performing  
16 states on that measure;

17 (E) improving the affordability of higher  
18 education in this state while maintaining excellence; and

19 (F) ensuring the global competitiveness of the  
20 state workforce.

21 Sec. 490F.007. REPORTS. Not later than January 1 of each  
22 odd-numbered year, the commission shall report to the legislature  
23 its assessment of the state's ability to meet the future higher  
24 education and workforce needs of this state and its recommendations  
25 for meeting those needs, including by achieving the goals  
26 prescribed by Section 490F.006(b)(2).

27 Sec. 490F.008. EXPIRATION. This chapter expires and the

1 commission is abolished January 1, 2037.

2           SECTION 2. The governor, the lieutenant governor, and the  
3 speaker of the house of representatives shall make the appointments  
4 required by Section 490F.002, Government Code, as added by this  
5 Act, not later than November 1, 2013.

6           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
7 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
8 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
9 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
10 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.