

By: J. Davis of Harris

H.B. No. 3028

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the use of the skills development fund and other funds  
3 available to the Texas Workforce Commission to support certain  
4 joint credit courses offered by school districts under agreements  
5 with public junior colleges.

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

7 SECTION 1. Section 303.003, Labor Code, is amended by  
8 adding Subsection (b-2) to read as follows:

9 (b-2) In addition to the purposes described by Subsections  
10 (b) and (b-1), in each state fiscal biennium, an amount of money  
11 from the skills development fund not to exceed five percent of the  
12 amount of general revenue appropriated to the skills development  
13 fund for that biennium may be used as provided by this subsection.  
14 Funds available to the commission from other sources may also be  
15 used as provided by this subsection. Funds may be awarded under this  
16 subsection to a public junior college to be used under an agreement  
17 with a school district to support courses offered for joint high  
18 school and public junior college credit or offered under a college  
19 credit career or technical education program that leads to an  
20 industry-recognized license, credential, or certificate.  
21 Appropriate uses of funds awarded under this subsection include  
22 purchasing or repairing necessary equipment for a course and  
23 developing a course curriculum. A course or program supported  
24 under this subsection must:

1           (1) have the endorsement of, or a letter of support  
2 from, at least one employer in this state; and

3           (2) be targeted to address the needs of high-demand  
4 fields or occupations, as identified by the applicable local  
5 workforce development board.

6           SECTION 2. 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.