

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 1576

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to a study and report of issues affecting persons with
3 disabilities at state agencies and postsecondary educational
4 institutions.

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

6 SECTION 1. Chapter 115, Human Resources Code, is amended by
7 adding Section 115.0095 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 115.0095. STUDY REGARDING ACCESSIBILITY OF STATE
9 AGENCY AND HIGHER EDUCATION RESOURCES AND INFORMATION. (a) In this
10 section, "postsecondary educational institution" means an
11 institution of higher education or a private or independent
12 institution of higher education, as those terms are defined by
13 Section 61.003, Education Code.

14 (b) The committee, in collaboration with the Texas Higher
15 Education Coordinating Board, shall conduct a study to identify
16 difficulties persons with disabilities are encountering at state
17 agencies and postsecondary educational institutions that receive
18 state or federal funds.

19 (c) The study must include an evaluation of the
20 accessibility of resources and information, whether printed or
21 electronic, including:

22 (1) materials provided by a state agency or
23 postsecondary educational institution; and

24 (2) with regard to a postsecondary educational

1 institution, learning and content management software used by the
2 institution and information and resources provided by student
3 organizations of the institution.

4 (d) The committee shall include the results of the study and
5 any recommendations for legislative or administrative action in the
6 report submitted to the governor and the legislature under Section
7 115.009(3) before December 31, 2014.

8 (e) This section expires September 1, 2015.

9 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
13 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.