

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

C.S.H.B. 99  
By: Guillen  
Higher Education  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Interested parties report that Texas does not have a system in place to track the supply of, demand for, need for, and distribution of medical students in the state, and they emphasize that, despite spending billions of dollars in appropriations for the education and training of physicians, the state does not measure whether that investment produces physicians with the essential medical specialties necessary to meet the needs of Texas' growing population. The parties conclude that the state loses its investment in these medical school graduates when they leave Texas to pursue graduate education elsewhere. The parties cite a Texas Medical Association report in support of their assertion that physicians who complete medical school and graduate medical education training in Texas are more likely to practice in Texas.

In addition, graduate medical education programs in Texas have not expanded even though medical student enrollment has increased, according to the interested parties, and they highlight the specific need to entice more primary care physicians to practice in the state, particularly in underserved areas. The state needs more information in order to enact effective policies and incentives to address these issues. C.S.H.B. 99 seeks to gather that information by creating a tracking system for the initial residency program choices made by medical school graduates in Texas and for the initial practice choices of Texas medical residents.

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that rulemaking authority is expressly granted to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board in SECTION 1 of this bill.

### **ANALYSIS**

C.S.H.B. 99 amends the Education Code to require the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, by rule and not later than February 1, 2016, to establish a tracking system under which the coordinating board acquires and maintains data regarding the initial residency program choices made by graduates of medical schools in Texas and the initial practice choices made by persons completing medical residency programs in Texas. The bill requires the tracking system to use any data reasonably available to the coordinating board, including data maintained by or accessible to medical schools or residency programs in Texas and, with respect to a person who completes a medical residency program in Texas, to collect relevant information for the five-year period following completion of that program, including whether and for how long physicians who complete such programs work in primary care in Texas and which medical specialties they report as their primary medical practice and the locations of the practices established by those persons.

C.S.H.B. 99 requires the coordinating board to adopt rules for the implementation and administration of the tracking system as soon as practicable after the bill's effective date and authorizes the coordinating board to adopt the initial rules in the manner provided by law for emergency rules.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2015.

### **COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL AND SUBSTITUTE**

While C.S.H.B. 99 may differ from the original in minor or nonsubstantive ways, the following comparison is organized and formatted in a manner that indicates the substantial differences between the introduced and committee substitute versions of the bill.

#### INTRODUCED

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 61.0906 to read as follows:

Sec. 61.0906. TRACKING SYSTEM FOR MEDICAL TRAINING AND PRACTICE CHOICES. (a) The board by rule shall establish a system under which the board acquires and maintains data regarding the initial residency program choices made by graduates of medical schools in this state and the initial practice choices made by persons completing medical residency programs in this state. The tracking system must:

(1) use any data reasonably available to the board, including data maintained by or accessible to medical schools or residency programs in this state; and

(2) with respect to a person who completes a medical residency program in this state, collect relevant information for the two-year period following completion of that program.

(b) For purposes of Subsection (a)(2), relevant information includes:

(1) whether and for how long physicians who complete medical residency programs in this state work in primary care in this state and which medical specialties they report as their primary medical practice; and

(2) the locations of the practices established by those persons.

SECTION 2. (a) As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall adopt rules for the implementation and

#### HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

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(1) use any data reasonably available to the board, including data maintained by or accessible to medical schools or residency programs in this state; and

(2) with respect to a person who completes a medical residency program in this state, collect relevant information for the five-year period following completion of that program.

(b) For purposes of Subsection (a)(2), relevant information includes:

(1) whether and for how long physicians who complete medical residency programs in this state work in primary care in this state and which medical specialties they report as their primary medical practice; and

(2) the locations of the practices established by those persons.

SECTION 2. (a) As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall adopt rules for the implementation and

administration of the tracking system established under Section 61.0906, Education Code, as added by this Act. The board may adopt the initial rules in the manner provided by law for emergency rules.

(b) Not later than **January 1, 2016**, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall establish the tracking system required by Section 61.0906, Education Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

administration of the tracking system established under Section 61.0906, Education Code, as added by this Act. The board may adopt the initial rules in the manner provided by law for emergency rules.

(b) Not later than **February 1, 2016**, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall establish the tracking system required by Section 61.0906, Education Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 3. Same as introduced version.