BILL ANALYSIS

H.B. 1287 By: Simmons Higher Education Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Unfortunately, concerned parties note, given rising tuition costs and stagnant employment rates among college graduates, today's college students are spending increased amounts on tuition with no promise of employment after graduation. The parties suggest that increased transparency regarding job statistics would allow students to more accurately weigh the benefits of a degree against the rising costs of tuition. H.B. 1287 seeks to make comparative information about Texas public two-year and four-year postsecondary institutions more readily available.

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 this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

H.B. 1287 amends the Education Code to require each general academic teaching institution other than a public state college, as soon as practicable following the bill's effective date but not later than February 1, 2016, to maintain in a prominent location on the institution's website a link to the Texas Consumer Resource for Education and Workforce Statistics (Texas CREWS) report on gainful employment applicable to the institution for the most recent year for which that report is available.

EFFECTIVE DATE

On passage, or, if the bill does not receive the necessary vote, September 1, 2015.

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