

1-1 By: Burkett, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Hinojosa) H.B. No. 1606
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 13, 2015;
 1-3 April 21, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-4 Natural Resources and Economic Development; May 5, 2015, reported
 1-5 favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 5, 2015, sent
 1-6 to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17			X	
1-18			X	
1-19	X			

1-20 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-21 AN ACT

1-22 relating to the continuation and functions of the Texas Workforce
 1-23 Investment Council, including assumption of the duties of the Texas
 1-24 Skill Standards Board.

1-25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-26 SECTION 1. Section 2308.005, Government Code, is amended to
 1-27 read as follows:

1-28 Sec. 2308.005. APPLICATION OF SUNSET ACT. The Texas
 1-29 Workforce Investment Council is subject to Chapter 325 (Texas
 1-30 Sunset Act). Unless continued in existence as provided by that
 1-31 chapter, the council is abolished September 1, 2027 [2015]. The
 1-32 council shall be reviewed during the period in which the Texas
 1-33 Workforce Commission is reviewed.

1-34 SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 2308, Government Code, is
 1-35 amended by adding Section 2308.109 to read as follows:

1-36 Sec. 2308.109. DUTY TO DEVELOP SKILL STANDARDS. (a) The
 1-37 council shall provide advice to the governor and the legislature on
 1-38 the development of a statewide system of industry-defined and
 1-39 industry-recognized skill standards and credentials for all major
 1-40 skilled occupations that:

1-41 (1) provide strong employment and earnings
 1-42 opportunities in this state; and

1-43 (2) require less than a baccalaureate degree.

1-44 (b) The council shall:

1-45 (1) validate and recognize nationally established
 1-46 skill standards to guide curriculum development, training,
 1-47 assessment, and certification of workforce skills;

1-48 (2) convene industry groups to develop skill standards
 1-49 and certification procedures for industries and occupations in
 1-50 which standards have not been established or adopted and recognize
 1-51 the skill standards and certification procedures;

1-52 (3) review the standards developed by other states and
 1-53 foreign countries and enter into agreements for mutual recognition
 1-54 of standards and credentials to enhance portability of skills; and

1-55 (4) promote the use of standards and credentials among
 1-56 employers.

1-57 (c) The council shall:

1-58 (1) report on the council's duties under this section
 1-59 to the governor; and

1-60 (2) provide annual reports on the council's duties
 1-61 under this section to the governor, the division, and the

2-1 legislature.

2-2 SECTION 3. Subchapter H, Chapter 2308, Government Code, is
2-3 repealed.

2-4 SECTION 4. The Texas Skill Standards Board is abolished.
2-5 All powers and duties of the Texas Skill Standards Board are
2-6 transferred to the Texas Workforce Investment Council.

2-7 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

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