

By: Raney

H.B. No. 2138

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the online publication of information regarding campus expenditures made by junior college districts.

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

SECTION 1. Section 61.065, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsections (c) and (d) to read as follows:

(a) The comptroller of public accounts and the board jointly shall prescribe and periodically update a uniform system of financial accounting and reporting for institutions of higher education, including definitions of the elements of cost on the basis of which appropriations shall be made and financial records shall be maintained. ~~[The board may require institutions to report additional financial information as the board considers necessary.]~~ In order that the uniform system of financial accounting and reporting shall provide for maximum consistency with the national reporting system for higher education, the uniform system shall incorporate insofar as possible the provisions of the financial accounting and reporting manual published by the National Association of College and University Business Officers. The accounts of the institutions shall be maintained and audited in accordance with the approved reporting system.

(c) The board shall adopt rules requiring each junior college district to publish on the district's website detailed

1 financial information regarding the expenditures made during each
2 state fiscal year with respect to each campus maintained by the
3 district and regarding the source of those expended funds. The
4 rules must require the information to be published in an accessible
5 format not later than the 60th day after the end of the applicable
6 state fiscal year.

7 (d) The board may require institutions of higher education
8 to report additional financial information as the board considers
9 necessary.

10 SECTION 2. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
11 shall adopt the rules required by Section 61.065(c), Education
12 Code, as added by this Act, as soon as practicable after this Act
13 takes effect. For that purpose, the coordinating board may adopt
14 the initial rules in the manner provided by law for emergency rules.

15 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
16 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
17 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
18 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
19 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.