

House Bill 3348
Senate Amendments
Section-by-Section Analysis

HOUSE VERSION

SECTION 1. Section 130.0012, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (b) and adding Subsections (k) and (l) to read as follows:

(a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board may ~~shall~~ authorize public junior colleges to offer baccalaureate degree programs in the fields of applied science, ~~and~~ applied technology, and dental hygiene under this section. Offering a baccalaureate degree program under this section does not otherwise alter the role and mission of a public junior college.

(b) The coordinating board shall authorize baccalaureate degree programs at:

(1) each public junior college that previously participated in a pilot project to offer baccalaureate degree programs; and

(2) one or more public junior colleges that offer a degree program in the field of dental hygiene if, at the time the degree is initially offered, the public junior college:

(A) has a main campus located in the county seat of a county with a population greater than 200,000; and

(B) includes territory in at least six public school districts located in two counties.

SENATE VERSION (CS)

SECTION 1. Section 130.0012, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsections (b-1), (b-2), (b-3), (k), and (l) to read as follows:

(b-1) The coordinating board shall establish a pilot project to examine the feasibility and effectiveness of authorizing baccalaureate degree programs in the field of dental hygiene at a public junior college that offers a degree program in that field, has a main campus located in the county seat of a county with a population greater than 200,000, and includes territory in at least six public school districts located in two counties. Subsection (g) does not apply to junior-level and senior-level courses offered under this subsection. In its recommendations to the legislature relating to state funding for public junior colleges, the coordinating board shall recommend that junior-level and senior-level courses offered under this subsection by

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a public junior college receive the same state support as other courses offered by the public junior college.

(b-2) Not later than January 1, 2017, the coordinating board shall prepare a progress report on the pilot project established under Subsection (b-1). Not later than January 1, 2019, the coordinating board shall prepare a report on the effectiveness of the pilot project, including any recommendations for legislative action regarding the offering of baccalaureate degree programs in the field of dental hygiene by a public junior college. The coordinating board shall deliver a copy of each report to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the chair of the standing committee of each house of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over higher education. Unless the authority to continue offering a baccalaureate degree program in the field of dental hygiene is continued by the legislature, a public junior college may not:

(1) enroll a new student in a baccalaureate degree program under the pilot project after the 2019 fall semester;

(2) offer junior-level or senior-level courses for those degree programs after the 2021 fall semester, unless the coordinating board authorizes the college to offer those courses; or

(3) award a baccalaureate degree under the pilot project after the 2021 fall semester, unless the coordinating board approves the awarding of the degree.

(b-3) This subsection and Subsections (b-1) and (b-2) expire on the first June 15 following the first regular legislative session that occurs after the fourth anniversary of the date a public junior college offering a degree program in the field of dental hygiene under Subsection (b-1) meets the accreditation requirements of Subsection (c).

(k) The coordinating board shall adopt rules as necessary for

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the administration of this section.

(1) In this section, "general academic teaching institution" and "institution of higher education" have the meanings assigned by Section 61.003.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

SENATE VERSION (CS)

the administration of this section.

(1) In this section, "general academic teaching institution" and "institution of higher education" have the meanings assigned by Section 61.003.

SECTION 2. Same as House version.

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