

By: Deshotel

H.B. No. 2431

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the participation of public state colleges in the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program.

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

SECTION 1. Section 134.001(2), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(2) "Public junior college," ~~and~~ "public technical institute," and "public state college" have the meanings assigned by Section 61.003.

SECTION 2. Section 134.004, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 134.004. JOBS AND EDUCATION FOR TEXANS (JET) GRANT PROGRAM. (a) The commission shall establish and administer the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program to provide grants to public junior colleges, public technical institutes, public state colleges, and independent school districts described under Section 134.007 that apply to the advisory board in the manner prescribed by the advisory board. The commission shall award the grants on the advice and recommendations of the advisory board.

(b) Grants may be awarded under this chapter from the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) fund to defray the start-up costs associated with the development of new career and technical education programs at public junior colleges, public technical institutes, public state colleges, and independent school

1 districts described under Section 134.007 that meet the
2 requirements of Section 134.006.

3 SECTION 3. Sections 134.006(a), (c), and (d), Education
4 Code, are amended to read as follows:

5 (a) The commission may award a grant for the development of
6 new career and technical education courses or programs at public
7 junior colleges, public technical institutes, public state
8 colleges, and independent school districts.

9 (c) In awarding a grant under this section, the commission
10 shall primarily consider the potential economic returns to the
11 state from the development of the career and technical education
12 course or program. The commission may also consider whether the
13 course or program:

14 (1) is part of a new, emerging industry or high-demand
15 occupation;

16 (2) offers new or expanded dual credit career and
17 technical educational opportunities in public high schools; or

18 (3) is provided in cooperation with other public
19 junior colleges, ~~or~~ public technical institutes, or public state
20 colleges across existing service areas.

21 (d) To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a
22 public junior college, public technical institute, public state
23 college, or independent school district described under Section
24 134.007 must provide matching funds in accordance with rules
25 adopted under Section 134.008. The matching funds may be obtained
26 from any source available to the public junior college, public
27 technical institute, public state college, or independent school

1 district, including industry consortia, community or foundation
2 grants, individual contributions, and local governmental agency
3 operating funds.

4 SECTION 4. Section 134.007, Education Code, is amended to
5 read as follows:

6 Sec. 134.007. GRANTS AWARDED TO INDEPENDENT SCHOOL
7 DISTRICT. The commission may award a grant to an independent school
8 district under this chapter if the district has entered into a
9 partnership with a public junior college, ~~or~~ public technical
10 institute, or public state college for the purpose of:

11 (1) promoting career and technical education to the
12 district's students; or

13 (2) offering dual credit courses to the district's
14 students.

15 SECTION 5. 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, 2017.