

By: Button

H.B. No. 3260

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to use of the governor's university research initiative
3 fund to support the commercialization of property derived from
4 research at or through public institutions of higher education.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 62.161, Education Code, as added by
7 Chapters 323 (S.B. 632) and 915 (H.B. 26), Acts of the 84th
8 Legislature, Regular Session, 2015, is amended by adding
9 Subdivision (8) to read as follows:

10 (8) "Public institution of higher education" means an
11 institution of higher education as defined by Section 61.003.

12 SECTION 2. Section 62.164(a), Education Code, as added by
13 Chapters 323 (S.B. 632) and 915 (H.B. 26), Acts of the 84th
14 Legislature, Regular Session, 2015, is amended to read as follows:

15 (a) In awarding grants under Section 62.163, the office
16 shall give priority to grant proposals that involve the recruitment
17 of distinguished researchers in the fields of science, technology,
18 engineering, mathematics, and medicine. With respect to proposals
19 involving those fields, the office shall give priority to proposals
20 that demonstrate a reasonable likelihood of contributing
21 substantially to this state's national and global economic
22 competitiveness.

23 SECTION 3. Subchapter H, Chapter 62, Education Code, as
24 added by Chapters 323 (S.B. 632) and 915 (H.B. 26), Acts of the 84th

1 Legislature, Regular Session, 2015, is amended by adding Section
2 62.1645 to read as follows:

3 Sec. 62.1645. GRANT FOR PUBLIC UNIVERSITY RESEARCH
4 DEVELOPMENT WITH PRIVATE SPONSORSHIP. (a) The office may provide
5 grants to public institutions of higher education from the fund to
6 supplement other funding for projects involving the
7 commercialization of intellectual property or other property
8 derived from research developed at or through a public institution
9 of higher education. To be eligible for a grant under this section,
10 a project must be supported by funding provided by one or more
11 private entities participating in the project, in addition to any
12 funding provided by the public institution of higher education.

13 (b) The amount of a grant awarded under this section may not
14 exceed 50 percent of the total amount of investment in the project
15 provided by the applicable public institution of higher education
16 and the participating private entity or entities.

17 SECTION 4. Section 62.168, Education Code, as added by
18 Chapters 323 (S.B. 632) and 915 (H.B. 26), Acts of the 84th
19 Legislature, Regular Session, 2015, is amended to read as follows:

20 Sec. 62.168. REPORTING REQUIREMENT. (a) Before the
21 beginning of each regular session of the legislature the governor
22 shall submit to the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of
23 representatives, and the standing committees of each house of the
24 legislature with primary jurisdiction over economic development
25 and higher education matters and post on the office of the
26 governor's Internet website a report on grants made from the fund.

27 (b) For matching grants made to eligible institutions from

1 the fund under Section 62.163, the report must state [~~from the fund~~
2 ~~that states~~]:

3 (1) the total amount of matching funds granted by the
4 office;

5 (2) the total amount of matching funds granted to each
6 recipient institution;

7 (3) a brief description of each distinguished
8 researcher recruited by each recipient institution, including any
9 amount of external research funding that followed the distinguished
10 researcher to the institution;

11 (4) a brief description of the expenditures made from
12 the matching grant funds for each distinguished researcher; and

13 (5) when available, a brief description of each
14 distinguished researcher's contribution to the state's economic
15 competitiveness, including:

16 (A) any patents issued to the distinguished
17 researcher after accepting employment by the recipient
18 institution; and

19 (B) any external research funding, public or
20 private, obtained by the distinguished researcher after accepting
21 employment by the recipient institution.

22 (c) For grants made to public institutions of higher
23 education from the fund under Section 62.1645, the report must
24 include only the amount and purpose of each grant.

25 (d) [~~(a-1)~~] The report may not include information that is
26 made confidential by law.

27 (e) [~~(b)~~] The governor may require an eligible institution

1 that receives a matching grant under this subchapter to submit, on a
2 form the governor provides, information required to complete the
3 report.

4 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.