

By: Romero, Jr.

H.B. No. 3396

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to establishing a pilot project to offer student loans for certain courses offered by a public junior college.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 130, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 130.0037 to read as follows:

Sec. 130.0037. PILOT PROJECT: STUDENT LOANS FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION COURSES. (a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall establish a pilot project to measure the impact of providing student loans for continuing education courses not designed to lead to a degree, license, or certification in order to promote greater access to higher education and more efficient use of junior college facilities and resources. The coordinating board shall select the Tarrant County Junior College District to participate in the pilot project.

(b) The governing board of the Tarrant County Junior College District may establish and offer, from local funds available to the district, a student loan program for students pursuing a continuing education program not designed to lead to a degree, license, or certification.

(c) A student loan offered under this section may not be used to pay for courses subject to a performance funding formula established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board under Section 51.3062(m).

1 (d) Not later than September 1, 2020, the Texas Higher
2 Education Coordinating Board shall report its findings on the
3 effectiveness of the student loan program and any recommendation
4 regarding extending the program to other junior college districts
5 to the committees of each house of the legislature with
6 jurisdiction over higher education. This subsection expires
7 September 1, 2021.

8 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
9 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
10 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
11 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
12 Act takes effect September 1, 2017.