

By: Bettencourt

S.B. No. 1888

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to limitations on the automatic admission of students to
3 general academic teaching institutions and on the admission of
4 nonresident students to The University of Texas at Austin.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 51.803, Education Code, is amended by
7 amending Subsections (a-1), (a-2), and (a-6) and adding Subsection
8 (j-1) to read as follows:

9 (a-1) Beginning with admissions for the 2019-2020
10 [~~2011-2012~~] academic year, a general academic teaching institution
11 [~~The University of Texas at Austin~~] is not required to offer
12 admission to applicants who qualify for automatic admission under
13 Subsection (a) in excess of the number required to fill 50 [~~75~~]
14 percent of the institution's [~~university's~~] enrollment capacity
15 designated for first-time resident undergraduate students in an
16 academic year. If the number of applicants who qualify for
17 automatic admission to the institution [~~The University of Texas at~~
18 ~~Austin~~] under Subsection (a) for an academic year exceeds 50 [~~75~~]
19 percent of the institution's [~~university's~~] enrollment capacity
20 designated for first-time resident undergraduate students for that
21 academic year, the institution [~~university~~] may elect to offer
22 admission to those applicants as provided by this subsection and
23 not as otherwise required by Subsection (a). If the institution
24 [~~university~~] elects to offer admission under this subsection, the

1 institution [~~university~~] shall offer admission to those applicants
2 by percentile rank according to high school graduating class
3 standing based on grade point average, beginning with the top
4 percentile rank, until the applicants qualified under Subsection
5 (a) have been offered admission in the number estimated in good
6 faith by the institution [~~university~~] as sufficient to fill 50 [~~75~~]
7 percent of the institution's [~~university's~~] enrollment capacity
8 designated for first-time resident undergraduate students, except
9 that the institution [~~university~~] must offer admission to all
10 applicants with the same percentile rank. After the applicants
11 qualified for automatic admission under Subsection (a) have been
12 offered admission under this subsection in the number estimated in
13 good faith as sufficient to fill at least 50 [~~75~~] percent of the
14 designated enrollment capacity described by this subsection, the
15 institution [~~university~~] shall consider any remaining applicants
16 qualified for automatic admission under Subsection (a) in the same
17 manner as other applicants for admission as first-time
18 undergraduate students in accordance with Section [51.805](#).

19 (a-2) If the number of applicants who apply to a general
20 academic teaching institution during the current academic year for
21 admission in the next academic year and who qualify for automatic
22 admission to a general academic teaching institution under
23 Subsection (a) exceeds 50 [~~75~~] percent of the institution's
24 enrollment capacity designated for first-time resident
25 undergraduate students for that next academic year and the
26 institution plans to offer admission under Subsection (a-1) during
27 the next school year, the institution shall, in the manner

1 prescribed by the Texas Education Agency and not later than
2 September 15, provide to each school district, for dissemination of
3 the information to high school junior-level students and their
4 parents, notice of which percentile ranks of high school
5 senior-level students who qualify for automatic admission under
6 Subsection (a) are anticipated by the institution to be offered
7 admission under Subsection (a-1) during the next school year.

8 (a-6) Not later than December 31 of each academic year in
9 which a general academic teaching institution [~~The University of~~
10 ~~Texas at Austin~~] offers admission under Subsection (a-1), the
11 institution [~~university~~] shall deliver a written report to the
12 governor, the lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of
13 representatives regarding the institution's [~~university's~~]
14 progress in each of the following matters:

15 (1) increasing geographic diversity of the entering
16 freshman class;

17 (2) counseling and outreach efforts aimed at students
18 qualified for automatic admission under this section;

19 (3) recruiting Texas residents who graduate from other
20 institutions of higher education to the institution's
21 [~~university's~~] graduate and professional degree programs;

22 (4) recruiting students who are members of
23 underrepresented demographic segments of the state's population;
24 and

25 (5) assessing and improving the institution's
26 [~~university's~~] regional recruitment centers.

27 (j-1) Notwithstanding Subsection (j), if The University of

1 Texas at Austin elects to offer admission under Subsection (a-1)
2 for an academic year, the university may not offer admission to
3 first-time undergraduate students who are not residents of this
4 state for that academic year in excess of the number required to
5 fill 15 percent of the university's enrollment capacity designated
6 for first-time undergraduate students for that academic year.

7 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act apply
8 beginning with admissions to a general academic teaching
9 institution for the 2019-2020 academic year. Admissions to a
10 general academic teaching institution for an academic period before
11 that academic year are governed by the law in effect immediately
12 before the effective date of this Act, and the former law is
13 continued in effect for that purpose.

14 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2018.