

SENATE AMENDMENTS

2nd Printing

By: White, Rose, Johnson of Harris,
Biedermann

H.B. No. 553

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a task force to identify opportunities for academic credit and industry recognition for inmates of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 19, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 19.012 to read as follows:

Sec. 19.012. TASK FORCE ON ACADEMIC CREDIT AND INDUSTRY RECOGNITION. (a) The Windham School District, in consultation with the department, shall establish a task force to review the work or other productive activities in which persons confined or imprisoned in the department engage.

(b) The task force is composed of the following 10 members:

(1) two representatives of the department designated by the executive director of the department;

(2) one representative of the district designated by the superintendent of the district;

(3) one representative of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board designated by the commissioner of higher education;

(4) one representative of the Texas Workforce Commission designated by the executive director of the commission;

(5) one representative of a private vendor operating a correctional facility under a contract with the department,

1 appointed by the governor;

2 (6) three representatives of public junior colleges,
3 as defined by Section 61.003, appointed by the governor, including:

4 (A) at least one representative of a public
5 junior college that provides education services to persons confined
6 or imprisoned in the department; and

7 (B) at least one representative of a public
8 junior college that does not provide services described by
9 Paragraph (A); and

10 (7) one representative of a faith-based organization,
11 appointed by the governor.

12 (c) The governor shall designate a member of the task force
13 to serve as presiding officer.

14 (d) A vacancy on the task force shall be filled in the same
15 manner as the initial appointment.

16 (e) A member of the task force may not receive compensation
17 for service on the task force, but is entitled to reimbursement for
18 actual and necessary expenses incurred in performing task force
19 duties.

20 (f) The task force may accept gifts and grants from any
21 source to be used to carry out a function of the task force.

22 (g) The task force shall meet at least quarterly at the call
23 of the presiding officer and at other times as determined by the
24 presiding officer.

25 (h) The task force shall:

26 (1) conduct an ongoing comprehensive review of the
27 work or other productive activities in which persons confined or

1 imprisoned in the department engage; and

2 (2) identify opportunities for the award of high
3 school credit, college credit, or joint high school and college
4 credit, or the award of an industry-recognized credential or
5 certificate, for engaging in that work or activity.

6 (i) The district, in consultation with the department, the
7 Texas Education Agency, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating
8 Board, and the Texas Workforce Commission, shall for any type of
9 work or productive activity for which an opportunity is identified
10 under Subsection (h), determine the actions necessary for obtaining
11 the award of the applicable academic credit or industry
12 recognition.

13 (j) Not less than once every four years, the task force
14 shall submit to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker
15 of the house of representatives, and the standing committees of the
16 legislature having jurisdiction over the department a report that
17 summarizes the review conducted under Subsection (h) and the
18 district's actions with regard to obtaining the award of academic
19 credit or industry recognition under Subsection (i). The district
20 shall provide the task force with any information necessary to
21 complete the report.

22 (k) Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the
23 task force established under this section.

24 (l) The task force shall submit the first report required
25 under Subsection (j) not later than December 31, 2020. This
26 subsection expires February 1, 2021.

27 SECTION 2. Not later than December 1, 2017, the executive

1 director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, the
2 superintendent of the Windham School District, the commissioner of
3 higher education, the executive director of the Texas Workforce
4 Commission, and the governor shall appoint members to the task
5 force established by Section 19.012, Education Code, as added by
6 this Act, in the manner required by Subsection (b) of that section.

7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.

ADOPTED

✓ ✓
MAY 24 2017

Lotay Spaw
Secretary of the Senate



FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. 1

BY: _____

1 Amend H.B. No. 553 (senate committee printing) in SECTION 1
2 of the bill as follows:

3 (1) Strike added Section 19.012(g), Education Code (page 1,
4 line 61, through page 2, line 2), and substitute the following:

5 (g) The task force shall meet at the call of the presiding
6 officer.

7 (2) In added Section 19.012(j), Education Code (page 2, line
8 18), strike "less than once every four years" and substitute "later
9 than September 1, 2021".

10 (3) Strike added Sections 19.012(k) and (l), Education Code
11 (page 2, lines 27-31), and substitute the following:

12 (k) This section expires December 1, 2021.

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO. 2

BY: 

1 Amend HB 553 (senate committee printing) in SECTION 1 of
2 the bill, in added Section 19.012, Education Code, as follows:

3
4 Strike Subsection (e) (page 1, lines 55-58), and reletter
5 subsequent subsections and cross-references to those subsections
6 accordingly.

ADOPTED
✓✓
MAY 24 2017

Secretary of the Senate

ADOPTED
✓✓
MAY 24 2017

Secretary of the Senate

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 25, 2017

TO: Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB553** by White (Relating to the creation of a task force to identify opportunities for academic credit and industry recognition for inmates of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.), **As Passed 2nd House**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would require the Windham School District (WSD) to establish a task force in consultation with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). The bill would require the task force to conduct a comprehensive review of the work or other productive activities undertaken by individuals confined or imprisoned by TDCJ and to identify opportunities for those individuals to gain academic or industry credit through these activities. The bill would require WSD, in consultation with TDCJ, the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the Texas Workforce Commission, to determine what steps or actions must be taken for the credit to be awarded and to prepare and submit a report summarizing any findings and actions taken by September 1, 2021.

The bill would require the task force to have ten members appointed by designated state and private stakeholders. The bill would allow the task force to accept gifts or grants from any source to carry out its functions.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017 and would require members of the task force be appointed by December 1, 2017.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice, the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the Texas Workforce Commission anticipate no significant fiscal impact to the State.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 320 Texas Workforce Commission, 696 Department of Criminal Justice, 701 Texas Education Agency, 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board

LBB Staff: UP, AW, KK, KJo, AM, KVe

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 22, 2017

TO: Honorable Lois W. Kolkhorst, Chair, Senate Committee on Administration

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB553 by White (Relating to the creation of a task force to identify opportunities for academic credit and industry recognition for inmates of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.), **As Engrossed**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would require the Windham School District (WSD) to establish a task force in consultation with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). The bill would require the task force to conduct a comprehensive review of the work or other productive activities undertaken by individuals confined or imprisoned by TDCJ and to identify opportunities for those individuals to gain academic or industry credit through these activities. The bill would require WSD, in consultation with TDCJ, the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the Texas Workforce Commission, to determine what steps or actions must be taken for the credit to be awarded and to prepare and submit a report summarizing any findings and actions taken at least once every four years.

The bill would require the task force to have ten members appointed by designated state and private stakeholders and would entitle the task force members to reimbursement of necessary expenses. The bill would allow the task force to accept gifts or grants from any source to carry out its functions.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017 and would require members of the task force be appointed by December 1, 2017.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice, the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the Texas Workforce Commission anticipate no significant fiscal impact to the State.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 320 Texas Workforce Commission, 696 Department of Criminal Justice, 701 Texas Education Agency, 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board

LBB Staff: UP, KK, AW, KJo, AM, KVe

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 29, 2017

TO: Honorable James White, Chair, House Committee on Corrections

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB553** by White (relating to the creation of a task force to identify opportunities for academic credit and industry recognition for inmates of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would require the Windham School District (WSD) to establish a task force in consultation with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). The bill would require the task force to conduct a comprehensive review of the work or other productive activities undertaken by individuals confined or imprisoned by TDCJ and to identify opportunities for those individuals to gain academic or industry credit through these activities. The bill would require WSD, in consultation with TDCJ, the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the Texas Workforce Commission, to determine what steps or actions must be taken for the credit to be awarded and to prepare and submit a report summarizing any findings and actions taken at least once every four years.

The bill would require the task force to have nine members appointed by designated state and private stakeholders and would entitle the task force members to reimbursement of necessary expenses. The bill would allow the task force to accept gifts or grants from any source to carry out its functions.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017 and would require members of the task force be appointed by December 1, 2017.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice, the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the Texas Workforce Commission anticipate no significant fiscal impact to the State.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 320 Texas Workforce Commission, 696 Department of Criminal Justice, 701 Texas Education Agency, 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board

LBB Staff: UP, AW, KJo, AM, KVe

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD

Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 85TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

March 8, 2017

TO: Honorable James White, Chair, House Committee on Corrections

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB553 by White (Relating to the creation of a task force to identify opportunities for academic credit and industry recognition for inmates of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.), **As Introduced**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would require the Windham School District (WSD) to establish a task force in consultation with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). The bill would require the task force to conduct a comprehensive review of the work or other productive activities undertaken by individuals confined or imprisoned by TDCJ and to identify opportunities for those individuals to gain academic or industry credit through these activities. The bill would require WSD, in consultation with TDCJ, the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the Texas Workforce Commission, to determine what steps or actions must be taken for the credit to be awarded and to prepare and submit a report summarizing any findings and actions taken at least once every four years.

The bill would require the task force to have seven members appointed by designated state and private stakeholders and would entitle the task force members to reimbursement of necessary expenses. The bill would allow the task force to accept gifts or grants from any source to carry out its functions.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017 and would require members of the task force be appointed by December 1, 2017.

The Texas Department of Criminal Justice, the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and the Texas Workforce Commission anticipate no significant fiscal impact to the State.

Local Government Impact

No significant fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 212 Office of Court Administration, Texas Judicial Council, 320 Texas Workforce Commission, 696 Department of Criminal Justice, 701 Texas Education Agency, 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board

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