

By: Guillen, et al.

H.B. No. 700

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the use of the skills development fund by certain entities.

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

SECTION 1. Section 303.001(a), Labor Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The purpose of this chapter is to remove administrative barriers that impede the response of public community and technical colleges, community-based organizations, local workforce development boards, public libraries, and the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service to industry and workforce training needs and to develop incentives for public community and technical colleges, community-based organizations, local workforce development boards, public libraries, and the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service to provide customized assessment and training in a timely and efficient manner.

SECTION 2. Section 303.002(b), Labor Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) A public community or technical college or the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service may recover customized assessment and training costs incurred by the institution if:

(1) there is an actual or projected labor shortage in the occupation in which training is provided that is not being met by an existing institution or program in the area; and

1           (2) the wages at the time of job placement for  
2 individuals who successfully complete customized training at the  
3 public community or technical college or the Texas A&M Engineering  
4 Extension Service are equal to the prevailing wage for that  
5 occupation in the local labor market area.

6           SECTION 3. Sections 303.003(b), (f), (g), and (h), Labor  
7 Code, are amended to read as follows:

8           (b) The skills development fund may be used by public  
9 community and technical colleges, community-based organizations,  
10 local workforce development boards, public libraries, and the Texas  
11 A&M Engineering Extension Service as start-up or emergency funds  
12 for the following job-training purposes:

13                 (1) developing customized training programs for  
14 businesses and trade unions; and

15                 (2) sponsoring small and medium-sized business  
16 networks and consortiums.

17           (f) The Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service shall focus  
18 the service's training activities under this chapter on programs  
19 that:

20                 (1) are statewide in nature; or

21                 (2) are not available from a local junior college  
22 district, a local technical college, or a consortium of junior  
23 college districts.

24           (g) This section does not prohibit the Texas A&M Engineering  
25 Extension Service from participating in a consortium of junior  
26 college districts or with a technical college that provides  
27 training under this chapter.

1           (h) A community-based organization may apply for money to  
2 participate in a training program only in partnership with a  
3 community and technical college or the Texas A&M Engineering  
4 Extension Service. A community-based organization providing  
5 services regulated by the state shall provide evidence of any  
6 certification, license, or registration required by law.

7           SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.