

By: Powell

S.B. No. 352

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the use of the skills development fund by certain
3 entities.

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

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

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

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

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

22 (1) there is an actual or projected labor shortage in
23 the occupation in which training is provided that is not being met
24 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, school
11 districts, and the Texas A&M Engineering Extension Service as
12 start-up or emergency funds for the following job-training
13 purposes:

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

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

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

21 (1) are statewide in nature; or

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

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

1 training under this chapter.

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

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