

By: Powell

S.B. No. 1355

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the establishment of the work-based learning task
3 force.

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

5 SECTION 1. Chapter 133, Education Code, is amended by
6 adding Section 133.010 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 133.010. WORK-BASED LEARNING TASK FORCE. (a) In
8 this section:

9 (1) "Agency" means the Texas Education Agency.

10 (2) "Coordinating board" means the Texas Higher
11 Education Coordinating Board.

12 (3) "Institution of higher education" has the meaning
13 assigned by Section 61.003.

14 (4) "Open-enrollment charter school" has the meaning
15 assigned by Section 5.001.

16 (5) "Task force" means the work-based learning task
17 force established under this section.

18 (6) "Work-based learning opportunity" includes a
19 youth or adult apprenticeship or internship that provides paid work
20 experience and corresponding classroom instruction, delivered in
21 an employment relationship that both the business and worker intend
22 to lead to an industry-recognized credential and full-time
23 employment after completion of the program.

24 (b) The work-based learning task force is established to

1 develop strategies for expanding and improving the delivery of
2 work-based learning opportunities in this state.

3 (c) The task force is composed of the following 18 members:

4 (1) one member of the commission, appointed by the
5 executive director of the commission;

6 (2) one member of the coordinating board, appointed by
7 the commissioner of higher education;

8 (3) one member of the agency, appointed by the
9 commissioner of education;

10 (4) five members appointed by the governor as follows:

11 (A) one member from a school district or
12 open-enrollment charter school;

13 (B) one member from an institution of higher
14 education;

15 (C) two members from a high-growth, high-wage
16 industry; and

17 (D) one member from a statewide advocacy
18 organization representing young adults, a statewide education
19 advocacy organization, or a student organization that focuses on
20 apprenticeships;

21 (5) five members appointed by the lieutenant governor
22 as follows:

23 (A) one member from a school district or
24 open-enrollment charter school;

25 (B) one member from an institution of higher
26 education;

27 (C) two members from a high-growth, high-wage

1 industry; and

2 (D) one member from a statewide advocacy
3 organization representing young adults, a statewide education
4 advocacy organization, or a student organization that focuses on
5 apprenticeships; and

6 (6) five members appointed by the speaker of the house
7 of representatives as follows:

8 (A) one member from a school district or
9 open-enrollment charter school;

10 (B) one member from an institution of higher
11 education;

12 (C) two members from a high-growth, high-wage
13 industry; and

14 (D) one member from a statewide advocacy
15 organization representing young adults, a statewide education
16 advocacy organization, or a student organization that focuses on
17 apprenticeships.

18 (d) The members of the task force shall select a presiding
19 officer from among the membership.

20 (e) The task force shall meet at the call of the presiding
21 officer.

22 (f) A member of the task force serves at the will of the
23 member's appointing authority. A vacancy on the task force must be
24 filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

25 (g) A member of the task force may not receive compensation
26 for serving on the task force but is entitled to reimbursement for
27 travel expenses incurred by the member while conducting the

1 business of the task force as provided by the General
2 Appropriations Act.

3 (h) The commission, the coordinating board, and the agency
4 shall each provide necessary administrative and technical support
5 for the activities of the task force.

6 (i) The task force may solicit gifts, grants, and donations
7 from any public or private source for use in carrying out the task
8 force's duties under this section.

9 (j) The task force shall:

10 (1) develop recommendations for:

11 (A) increasing the number of work-based learning
12 opportunities in this state and the availability of those
13 opportunities, including for persons experiencing barriers to
14 employment and who are historically underrepresented in
15 high-growth, high-wage industries, with a particular focus on
16 occupations other than building and construction trades;

17 (B) removing barriers that impede the growth of
18 work-based learning opportunities in this state, including in small
19 and mid-size companies and in industries that have not historically
20 offered work-based learning opportunities;

21 (C) addressing employer concerns regarding
22 liability for work-based learning opportunities;

23 (D) improving a diverse pipeline of access to and
24 success in work-based learning opportunities, including assistance
25 with child care, food, and transportation;

26 (E) aligning public and private funding for
27 work-based learning opportunities;

1 (F) identifying data to be collected from
2 work-based learning opportunity providers; and

3 (G) establishing a process for the collection and
4 maintenance of data described by Paragraph (F) and for the
5 reporting of that data to policymakers and the public;

6 (2) develop critical guidance for local sector or
7 industry partnerships on how to serve as intermediaries
8 facilitating work-based learning opportunities, including guidance
9 regarding:

10 (A) marketing work-based learning opportunities
11 to community stakeholders;

12 (B) assisting business in establishing
13 work-based learning opportunities; and

14 (C) providing or brokering education and
15 training for individuals experiencing barriers to employment; and

16 (3) identify any resources that are needed, and any
17 current resources that could be redirected, to expand work-based
18 learning opportunities in this state.

19 (k) In carrying out its duties under this section, the task
20 force shall consult with stakeholders, including young adults
21 participating in work-based learning opportunities.

22 (l) Not later than December 1, 2020, the task force shall
23 submit a written report to the legislature, the commission, the
24 coordinating board, and the agency that includes:

25 (1) the task force's findings;

26 (2) a summary of the stakeholder input received by the
27 task force;

1 (3) recommendations for legislative or other action
2 and proposed legislation; and

3 (4) a statement regarding the feasibility of the task
4 force's recommendations.

5 (m) The task force is abolished and this section expires
6 September 1, 2021.

7 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
8 of this Act, the appropriate persons shall appoint the members of
9 the task force created by Section 133.010, Education Code, as added
10 by this Act.

11 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.