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By:  Oliverson H.B. No. 1132

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the information maintained by the Texas Education Agency regarding postsecondary education and career opportunities.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 7.040, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a)  The agency shall prepare information comparing institutions of higher education in this state and post the information on the agency's Internet website. Information prepared under this section shall be given to a public school student who requests the information. The information shall:

(1)  identify postsecondary education and career opportunities, including information that states the benefits of four-year and two-year higher education programs, postsecondary technical education, skilled workforce careers, and career education programs;

(2)  compare each institution of higher education with other institutions, both overall and disaggregated by baccalaureate or associate degree or certificate program, regarding:

(A)  the relative cost of tuition;

(B)  the retention rate of students;

(C)  the graduation rate of students;

(D)  the median [~~average~~] student debt, based on the most recent data released through the United States Department of Education's College Scorecard online tool or a successor tool;

(E)  the loan repayment rate of students; [~~and~~]

(F)  the employment rate of students; and

(G)  the median earnings of students, expressed as a yearly amount and as a percentage of student debt, at the first, fifth, and tenth year after graduation, based on the most recent data released through the United States Department of Education's College Scorecard online tool or a successor tool;

(3)  identify the state's future workforce needs, as projected by the Texas Workforce Commission; and

(4)  include annual wage information for the top 10 highest demand jobs in this state, as identified by the Texas Workforce Commission.

(a-1)  The information required under Subsections (a)(2)(D) and (G) must be updated each time new data described by those paragraphs is released through the United States Department of Education's College Scorecard online tool or a successor tool.

SECTION 2.  (a) As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the Texas Education Agency shall update the information required under Section 7.040(a), Education Code, as amended by this Act.

(b)  As soon as practicable after the Texas Education Agency completes the update required by Subsection (a) of this section, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall update the comparative gainful employment data regarding public institutions of higher education required to be maintained by the board under Sections 51.762(b-1) and 51.763(b), Education Code, to include the information required under Section 7.040(a), Education Code, as amended by this Act.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2021.