By:  Button (Senate Sponsor - Zaffirini) H.B. No. 1799

(In the Senate - Received from the House April 12, 2021; April 14, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Natural Resources & Economic Development; May 11, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 11, 2021, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

               Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Birdwell        X

Zaffirini       X

Alvarado        X

Hancock         X

Hinojosa        X

Hughes          X

Kolkhorst                X

Lucio           X

Seliger         X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the administration of apprenticeship training programs.

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

SECTION 1.  Sections 133.001(1), (3), (4), (5), and (6), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(1)  "Apprenticeship training program" means a training program that provides on-the-job training, preparatory instruction, supplementary instruction, or related instruction in a trade that has been certified as an apprenticeable [~~apprenticible~~] occupation by the Office of Apprenticeship [~~Bureau of Apprenticeship Training of the United States Department of Labor~~].

(3)  "Supplementary instruction" means a course of instruction for persons employed as journeymen craftsmen in apprenticeable [~~apprenticible~~] trades that is designed to provide new skills or upgrade current skills.

(4)  "Related instruction" means organized, off-the-job instruction in theoretical or technical subjects required for the completion of an apprenticeship program for a particular apprenticeable [~~apprenticible~~] trade.

(5)  "Commission" means the Texas Workforce [~~Employment~~] Commission.

(6)  "Office of Apprenticeship" [~~"Bureau"~~] means the Office of Apprenticeship [~~Bureau of Apprenticeship Training~~] of the United States Department of Labor.

SECTION 2.  Sections 133.002(c), (d), (g), and (h), Education Code, are amended to read as follows:

(c)  A program must be under the direction of an apprenticeship committee whose members are appointed by one or more employers of apprentices, one or more bargaining agents representing members of an apprenticeable [~~apprenticible~~] trade, or a combination of the above, and the committee shall perform the duties set forth in Section 133.003. If an apprenticeship committee is composed of representatives of one or more employers and one or more bargaining agents, the number of committee members designated by the employer or employers shall be equal to the number of committee members designated by the bargaining agent or agents.

(d)  Each apprentice participating in a program must be given a written apprenticeship agreement by the apprenticeship committee stating the standards and conditions of the apprentice's employment and training. The standards must conform substantially with the standards of apprenticeship for the particular trade which have been adopted by the Office of Apprenticeship [~~bureau~~].

(g)  An apprenticeship training program must provide adequate facilities, personnel, and resources to effectively administer the program in a manner consistent with the public's need for skilled craftsmen and the apprentices' need for marketable skills in apprenticeable [~~apprenticible~~] occupations.

(h)  A program must be registered with the Office of Apprenticeship [~~bureau~~] and approved by the commission.

SECTION 3.  Section 133.006(b), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b)  At least annually, the [~~The~~] commission shall prepare and submit to the Texas Workforce Investment Council or to the Apprenticeship and Training Advisory Committee, as designated by the Texas Workforce Investment Council, a report that includes:

(1)  an apprenticeship-related instruction cost study for the most recent state fiscal year; and

(2)  the funding distribution for apprenticeship-related instruction programs for the state fiscal year in which the report is submitted [~~an update to the Apprenticeship Related Instruction Cost Study adopted by the State Board of Education on February 10, 1973, prior to each biennial session of the legislature~~].

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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