

1-1 By: Dutton (Senate Sponsor - Miles) H.B. No. 981
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 10, 2021;
 1-3 May 10, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Higher
 1-4 Education; May 21, 2021, reported adversely, with favorable
 1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0, one
 1-6 present not voting; May 21, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

| | Yea | Nay | Absent | PNV |
|------|-----|-----|--------|-----|
| 1-8 | | | | |
| 1-9 | X | | | |
| 1-10 | X | | | |
| 1-11 | X | | | |
| 1-12 | X | | | |
| 1-13 | X | | | |
| 1-14 | X | | | |
| 1-15 | | | | X |
| 1-16 | X | | | |
| 1-17 | X | | | |

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 981 By: West

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to a study by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating
 1-22 Board on the feasibility of establishing a religious studies
 1-23 program at Texas Southern University.

1-24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-25 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
 1-26 amended by adding Section 61.06695 to read as follows:

1-27 Sec. 61.06695. STUDY ON RELIGIOUS STUDIES PROGRAM AT TEXAS
 1-28 SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY. (a) The board shall conduct a study on the
 1-29 feasibility of establishing a religious studies program that offers
 1-30 bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees at Texas Southern
 1-31 University.

1-32 (b) Not later than December 1, 2022, the board shall submit
 1-33 to each legislative standing committee with primary jurisdiction
 1-34 over higher education and the board of regents of Texas Southern
 1-35 University a report on the results of the study.

1-36 (c) This section expires September 1, 2023.

1-37 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 1-38 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 1-39 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
 1-40 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
 1-41 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

1-42 * * * * *