

By: Pacheco

H.B. No. 3351

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to establishing the Texas Commission on Community College Finance.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter G, Chapter 130, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 130.1305 to read as follows:

Sec. 130.1305. TEXAS COMMISSION ON COMMUNITY COLLEGE FINANCE. (a) The Texas Commission on Community College Finance is established to make recommendations for consideration by the 88th Texas Legislature regarding the state funding formula and funding levels for public junior colleges in Texas that would be sufficient to sustain viable junior college education and training offerings throughout the state.

(b) The commission is composed of 11 members as follows:

(1) three members appointed by the governor;

(2) three members appointed by the lieutenant governor;

(3) three members appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

(4) one member appointed by the board of the Texas Association of Community Colleges; and

(5) one member appointed by the board of the Community College Association of Texas Trustees.

(c) Members appointed by the governor must be

1 representatives of junior college leaders, business leaders, or
2 other stakeholders knowledgeable in junior college mission,
3 instructional programs, and finance.

4 (d) Members appointed by the lieutenant governor shall
5 consist of:

6 (1) two members of the Texas Senate; and

7 (2) an administrator from an institution of higher
8 education as defined by Section 61.003.

9 (e) Members appointed by the speaker of the house shall
10 consist of:

11 (1) two members of the house of representatives; and

12 (2) an administrator from an institution of higher
13 education as defined by Section 61.003.

14 (f) In making appointments, the governor, lieutenant
15 governor, and speaker of the house of representatives shall
16 coordinate to ensure that the membership of the commission
17 reflects, to the extent possible, the geographic diversity of Texas
18 public junior colleges and the ethnic diversity of the communities
19 served by those junior colleges.

20 (g) The commission shall convene not later than the 90th day
21 after the enactment of this section by the legislature and shall
22 continue its activities until completion of a final report.

23 (h) The commission shall examine trend and forecast data,
24 seek stakeholder input, and account for equity in student outcomes,
25 with a particular focus on students who are underrepresented in
26 higher education, including from families in the bottom quintiles
27 of the economic spectrum, and make recommendations on the following

1 policies:

2 (1) contact hour funding formulas established for
3 public junior colleges under Subchapter C, Chapter 61, and
4 Subchapter A of this chapter;

5 (2) the use of student success points established
6 under Section 61.0593 to determine the allocation of state funding
7 to public junior colleges;

8 (3) historical or innovative funding methods for
9 supporting underfunded colleges;

10 (4) revenue source proportionality in the payment of
11 employee group insurance benefits; and

12 (5) the feasibility of establishing shared service
13 agreements or interinstitutional collaboratives where institutions
14 of higher education perform administrative services, other than
15 direct instruction and student support services, for other
16 institutions of higher education for a fee or other consideration.

17 (i) The commission may seek resource support, including
18 data analyses and technical assistance, from the Texas Higher
19 Education Coordinating Board, the Texas Association of Community
20 Colleges, and research organizations. The commission may accept
21 gifts, grants, and donations from any source to be used to carry out
22 a function of the commission.

23 (j) The commission shall submit a final report and
24 recommendations to the governor, lieutenant governor, and both
25 houses of the legislature not later than November 1, 2022.

26 (k) This section expires January 1, 2023.

27 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

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