

1-1 By: Raney, Parker (Senate Sponsor - Bettencourt) H.B. No. 4361
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 17, 2021;
 1-3 May 17, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Higher
 1-4 Education; May 21, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote:
 1-5 Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 21, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
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 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to off-campus workforce education or lower-division
 1-20 programs offered by a public institution of higher education at the
 1-21 request of an employer.

1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-23 SECTION 1. Subchapter 2, Chapter 51, Education Code, is
 1-24 amended by adding Section 51.981 to read as follows:

1-25 Sec. 51.981. OFF-CAMPUS WORKFORCE EDUCATION OR
 1-26 LOWER-DIVISION PROGRAMS REQUESTED BY EMPLOYERS. An institution of
 1-27 higher education may enter into an agreement with an employer to
 1-28 provide a credit or noncredit off-campus workforce education or
 1-29 lower-division program to the institution's students at a site
 1-30 requested by the employer without the approval of a higher
 1-31 education regional council established under Subchapter N,
 1-32 regardless of whether the site at which the program would be offered
 1-33 is located within the institution's uniform state service region
 1-34 or, if the institution is a public junior college, within the junior
 1-35 college district's service area, if:

1-36 (1) the employer has solicited an agreement to offer
 1-37 the program at that site with another institution of higher
 1-38 education that offers the same or substantially equivalent
 1-39 coursework as that requested by the employer;

1-40 (2) the proposed site for the off-campus program is
 1-41 located within the uniform state service region in which the
 1-42 institution described by Subdivision (1) is located or, if the
 1-43 institution is a public junior college, within the junior college
 1-44 district's service area; and

1-45 (3) the institution of higher education described by
 1-46 Subdivision (1) does not finalize an offer to enter into an
 1-47 agreement with the employer that meets the employer's
 1-48 specifications for the off-campus program within six weeks after
 1-49 the employer's initial written solicitation requesting the
 1-50 institution to offer the program.

1-51 SECTION 2. Section 51.981, Education Code, as added by this
 1-52 Act, applies beginning with the 2021-2022 academic year.

1-53 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 1-54 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 1-55 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
 1-56 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
 1-57 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

1-58 * * * * *