

By: Birdwell

S.B. No. 740

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the requirements for a junior college district to  
3 receive approval from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board  
4 to offer baccalaureate degree programs.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 130.307, Education Code, is amended by  
7 amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (b-1) to read as  
8 follows:

9 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (b-1), a [A] public  
10 junior college may offer a baccalaureate degree program under this  
11 subchapter only if its junior college district:

12 (1) had a taxable property valuation amount of not  
13 less than \$6 billion in the preceding year; and

14 (2) received a positive assessment of the overall  
15 financial health of the district as reported by the coordinating  
16 board.

17 (b-1) The requirement of Subsection (b)(1) does not apply to  
18 a public junior college pursuing the establishment of a  
19 baccalaureate degree program that will result in a medical  
20 certification if its junior college district:

21 (1) has a taxable property valuation amount of not  
22 less than \$4 billion in the preceding year; and

23 (2) does not have a four-year institution of higher  
24 education located in a county in which the district is located.

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