

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD  
Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 87TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**April 13, 2021**

**TO:** Honorable Jim Murphy, Chair, House Committee on Higher Education

**FROM:** Jerry McGinty, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB981** by Dutton (Relating to a study by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board on the feasibility of establishing a divinity program at Texas Southern University.), **As Introduced**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would require the Higher Education Coordinating Board to conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing a divinity program that offers bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees at Texas Southern University. The bill would require the Coordinating Board to submit to each legislative standing committee with primary jurisdiction over higher education and the board of regents of Texas Southern University a report on the results of the study by December 1, 2022. It is assumed any costs associated with the bill could be absorbed using existing resources.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 717 Texas Southern University, 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board

**LBB Staff:** JMc, LBO, JSM, GO