

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

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

**April 28, 2021**

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

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

**IN RE: HB1624** by Raymond (Relating to a study on best practices in STEM programs at minority-serving public institutions of higher education and to a grant program to implement those practices.), **As Introduced**

**The fiscal implications of the bill cannot be determined at this time due to the unavailability of data related to the number of institutions that would be selected and the size and number of the grants awarded under the new program.**

The bill would require the Higher Education Coordinating Board to conduct a study, no later than January 1, 2022, on best practices in STEM programs offered by minority-serving institutions. The study must identify best practices in the recruitment, retention, and advancement of members of racial and ethnic minority groups in STEM programs. Under provisions of the bill, for the 2022-2023 academic year, from funds appropriated or otherwise available for the purpose, the Board would be required to award grants to minority-serving institutions to implement the best practices identified by the study. The Board would be required to develop a competitive application process to award the grants.

The fiscal implications of the bill cannot be determined at this time due to the unavailability of data related to the number of institutions that would be selected and the size and number of the grants awarded under the new program.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 781 Higher Education Coordinating Board

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