By:  Lalani H.B. No. 3124

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the use of cigarettes, e-cigarettes, and smokable tobacco products on the campus of a public institution of higher education.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter Z, Chapter 51, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 51.91922 to read as follows:

Sec. 51.91922.  USE OF CIGARETTE, E-CIGARETTE, OR SMOKABLE TOBACCO PRODUCT PROHIBITED. (a) In this section:

(1)  "Cigarette" has the meaning assigned by Section 154.001, Tax Code.

(2)  "E-cigarette" has the meaning assigned by Section 161.081, Health and Safety Code.

(3)  "Institution of higher education" has the meaning assigned by Section 61.003.

(4)  "Tobacco product" has the meaning assigned by Section 155.001, Tax Code.

(b)  Each institution of higher education shall adopt a policy prohibiting the use of a cigarette, e-cigarette, or smokable tobacco product on the grounds of, or in any building located on, the institution's campus.

SECTION 2.  ~~As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act~~, Not later than August 1st of 2024, each public institution of higher education shall adopt the policy required under Section 51.91922, Education Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2023.