88R13347 JRJ-D

By:  Harrison H.B. No. 5108

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study and report by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board regarding a teacher apprenticeship program.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 61.06692 to read as follows:

Sec. 61.06692.  STUDY AND REPORT ON TEACHER APPRENTICESHIP PROGRAM. (a) The board, with the assistance of the Texas Education Agency and the State Board for Educator Certification, shall conduct a study to determine the feasibility of and best practices for allowing students to obtain certification as a classroom teacher under an apprenticeship program.

(b)  The study must provide for an alternate pathway for teacher certification that takes less time to complete, is more affordable, and involves more direct experience than the standard pathway for teacher certification.

(c)  In conducting the study, the board shall collaborate with the Texas Education Agency and the State Board for Educator Certification.

(d)  Not later than December 1, 2025, the board shall submit to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, the commissioner of education, and the State Board for Educator Certification a written report that includes the study's findings and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

(e)  This section expires January 1, 2026.

SECTION 2.  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.