By:  Garcia H.B. No. 5192

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the accreditation of private or independent institutions of higher education.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 61.003(15), Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

(15)  "Private or independent institution of higher education" includes only a private or independent college or university that is:

(A)  organized under the Texas Non-Profit Corporation Act (Article 1396-1.01 et seq., Vernon's Texas Civil Statutes);

(B)  exempt from taxation under Article VIII, Section 2, of the Texas Constitution and Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (26 U.S.C. Section 501); and

(C)  accredited by:

(i)  the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools;

(ii)  the Liaison Committee on Medical Education; [~~or~~]

(iii)  the American Bar Association; or

(iv)  a recognized accrediting agency.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.