

1-1 By: West S.B. No. 526
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed January 20, 2023; February 17, 2023,
 1-3 read first time and referred to Subcommittee on Higher Education;
 1-4 April 11, 2023, reported adversely, with favorable Committee
 1-5 Substitute from Committee on Education by the following vote:
 1-6 Yeas 12, Nays 0; April 11, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12			X	
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18	X			
1-19	X			
1-20	X			
1-21	X			

1-22 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 526 By: Springer

1-23 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-24 AN ACT

1-25 relating to requiring prior approval by the Texas Higher Education
 1-26 Coordinating Board to offer a degree or certificate program to
 1-27 certain persons who are incarcerated or subject to involuntary
 1-28 civil commitment.

1-29 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-30 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 61, Education Code, is
 1-31 amended by adding Section 61.05123 to read as follows:

1-32 Sec. 61.05123. BOARD APPROVAL REQUIRED FOR ACADEMIC
 1-33 PROGRAMS OFFERED TO CERTAIN STUDENTS WHO ARE INCARCERATED OR
 1-34 SUBJECT TO INVOLUNTARY CIVIL COMMITMENT. (a) In this section,
 1-35 "penal institution" has the meaning assigned by Article 62.001,
 1-36 Code of Criminal Procedure.

1-37 (b) An entity that seeks to offer a degree or certificate
 1-38 program to a person confined in a penal institution or required to
 1-39 reside in a facility operated by or under contract with the Texas
 1-40 Civil Commitment Office under Chapter 841, Health and Safety Code,
 1-41 must obtain the board's prior approval to offer the program if
 1-42 enrollment in the program would make the person eligible to receive
 1-43 a grant under the federal Pell Grant program.

1-44 (c) The board may adopt rules necessary to implement this
 1-45 section.

1-46 SECTION 2. Section 61.05123, Education Code, as added by
 1-47 this Act, applies beginning with degree and certificate programs
 1-48 offered for the 2023-2024 academic year.

1-49 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
 1-50 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
 1-51 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
 1-52 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
 1-53 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

1-54 * * * * *