

## MINUTES

### SENATE COMMITTEE ON SUBCOMMITTEE ON HIGHER EDUCATION

Tuesday, September 24, 2024

9:00 AM

Capitol Extension, Room E1.028

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Pursuant to a notice posted in accordance with Senate Rule 11.10 and 11.18, a public hearing of the Senate Committee on Subcommittee on Higher Education was held on Tuesday, September 24, 2024, in the Capitol Extension, Room E1.028, at Austin, Texas.

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#### **MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Senator Brandon Creighton, Chair  
Senator Mayes Middleton, Vice Chair  
Senator Phil King  
Senator Drew Springer

#### **MEMBERS ABSENT:**

Senator Royce West

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The chair called the meeting to order at 9:11 AM. There being a quorum present, the following business was transacted:

The chair laid out the following interim charge:

Public Junior College State Finance Program: Monitor the implementation of the new community college funding model as recommended by the Texas Commission on Community College Finance. Report on whether the rulemaking process is being successfully completed to focus on student outcomes and enhancing the role of public junior colleges in workforce training and preparation.

Witnesses providing invited testimony are shown on the attached list.

The chair laid out the following interim charge:

Innovation and Technology in Higher Education: Investigate the opportunities and challenges of emerging technology on teaching and learning, focusing on artificial intelligence (AI), online

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education, and digital resources. Examine aspects of intellectual property as they relate to the development of AI programs and platforms by institutions of higher education and explore the ethical issues institutions of higher education should contemplate when developing AI programs and platforms. Make recommendations to responsibly and ethically utilize emerging technology to enhance learning in higher education.

Witnesses providing invited testimony are shown on the attached list.

The chair laid out the following interim charge:

**Core Curriculum Course Accessibility:** Review student access to core curriculum courses at Texas institutions of higher education. Examine the availability of these courses both online and in-person, as well as any issues that would prevent or reduce in-person access. Make recommendations for any needed reforms to ensure that all students have equal in-person access to core courses.

Witnesses providing invited testimony are shown on the attached list.

Witnesses providing public testimony are shown on the attached list.

The chair moved that public testimony be closed; without objection, it was so ordered.

There being no further business, at 11:24 AM Senator Creighton moved that the Committee stand recessed subject to the call of the chair. Without objection, it was so ordered.



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Senator Brandon Creighton, Chair

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Abby Johnston, Clerk