

**SUBJECT:** Repealing certain reporting by THECB and higher education institutions

**COMMITTEE:** Higher Education — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 7 ayes — Branch, Alonzo, Bonnen, Brown, D. Howard, Lewis, Patrick  
0 nays  
1 present not voting — Castro  
1 absent — Johnson

**SENATE VOTE:** On final passage, March 24 — 31-0, on Local and Uncontested Calendar

**WITNESSES:** No public hearing

**BACKGROUND:** Sec. 51.3062 of the Education Code governs the higher education Success Initiative. Under the provision, higher education institutions are required to assess the academic skills of each entering undergraduate student to determine the student’s ability to enroll in freshman-level courses. Under current law, every higher education institution is required to submit an annual report to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) showing the success of its students and the effectiveness of its Success Initiative.

Sec. 61.086 of the Education Code governs THECB’s uniform recruitment and retention strategy. The board is required to develop and annually update a uniform strategy to identify, attract, retain, and enroll students that reflect the population of Texas. Every higher education institution is required to implement the uniform strategy and has to include information about its implementation in its annual report to THECB.

Sec. 61.9683 of the Education Code authorizes THECB to operate an endowment fund to support geographic education programs to improve geography education in Texas. Sec. 61.9685 requires THECB to submit a biennial report to the Legislature detailing the value of the fund and the advisory committee’s membership. The report has to include a summary

of each project supported by a grant from the fund as well as other information deemed important by the board.

Sec. 2056.011 of the Government Code governs THECB's consolidated public junior and community college plan. The board is required to work with all state-funded junior and community colleges to develop a consolidated strategic plan for these institutions.

**DIGEST:**

SB 282 would exempt medical and dental units of higher education institutions from reporting annually to THECB on the success of their students and the effectiveness of the Success Initiative.

Secs. 61.086 and 61.9685 of the Education Code and sec. 2056.011 of the Government Code would be repealed.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2011.