

SUBJECT: Expanding certain student success-based funding recommendations

COMMITTEE: Higher Education — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 11 ayes — C. Turner, Stucky, Button, Frullo, Howard, E. Johnson, Pacheco, Schaefer, Smithee, Walle, Wilson

0 nays

WITNESSES: For — Dustin Meador, Texas Association of Community Colleges; (*Registered, but did not testify:* Jon Fisher, Associated Builders and Contractors of Texas; Sarah Matz, Computing Technology Industry Association; Priscilla Camacho, Dallas Regional Chamber; Traci Berry, Goodwill Central Texas; Lee Nicol, Greater Fort Worth Builder Association, Greater Fort Worth Real Estate Council; Bradley Pepper, Greater Houston Builders Association; John McCord, National Federation of Independent Business; Ned Munoz, Texas Association of Builders; Mike Meroney, Texas Association of Manufacturers; Ronnie Smitherman, Texas Building Trades Council; Dee Carney, Texas School Alliance)

Against — None

On — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Julie Eklund, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

BACKGROUND: Education Code sec. 61.0593(f) requires the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to evaluate undergraduate student success at public junior colleges when the board is devising its funding formulas.

Some suggest this funding mechanism does not account for the completion of continuing workforce education courses that are ineligible for academic credit and could lead to an incomplete understanding of the extent to which a junior college fulfills its mission.

DIGEST: HB 66 would require the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to incorporate the consideration of student success measures achieved in

qualified continuing workforce education courses offered by public junior colleges for which credit toward a certificate or associate's degree was not awarded.

A course would be considered qualified if the course was consistent with the role and mission of a public junior college and was designed to prepare students with skills necessary to attain external workforce credentials, regardless of whether the course was part of a recognized sequence of courses that would require a specific number of contact hours.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2019.