

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 1460
By: Delisi (Fraser)
Education
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Engrossed

DIGEST

Currently, all junior college and community college districts must have the words "junior" or "community" in the names of both their districts and colleges. Junior college and community college districts have requested the authority to eliminate these words from their names. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board has also noted necessary clarification of current statutory language providing for a college name change. This bill will set forth new regulations regarding the name of a public junior or community college.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 1460 sets forth new regulations regarding the name of a public junior or community college.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 130A, Education Code, by adding Section 130.0051, as follows:

Sec. 130.0051. OTHER CHANGE OF NAME BY JUNIOR COLLEGE DISTRICT. Authorizes a board of trustees of a junior college district (board) to change the name of the district or a college within the district by eliminating the words "community" or "junior" from the name of the district or college, unless the change would cause the district or college to have the same or substantially the same name as an existing district, college, or other public or private institution of higher education in this state. Requires the board to file with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (coordinating board) a copy of a resolution adopted under Subsection (a) that is certified by the secretary of the board. Provides that the name change is effective on the date the resolution is filed with the coordinating board. Requires the college or district, after a name change is filed, to use the new name in all official actions, communications, or records.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 130.082(c), Education Code, to require the official name of a junior college district (district) to be the "_____ Junior College District" unless the board of trustees of the district elects to call the district a community college district, in which event the official name of the junior college district shall be the "_____ Community College District." Authorizes a district to change its name under Section 130.005 or 130.0051. Requires the name of any junior college district existing on September 1, 1997, rather than the effective date of this code, to remain the same until and unless it is changed under this chapter, and any change in the name of a junior college district made before that date is validated and is deemed to have been properly made. Prohibits another district from using the name of any district whose name change is validated under this section. Deletes a reference to the Texas College and University System. Makes conforming and nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 1997.

SECTION 4. Emergency clause.