BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 2491 By: Alexander (Ratliff) Education 5-12-97 Engrossed

DIGEST

In the 73rd Legislature, H.B. 903 established a statewide charitable program which allows for donations to charitable organizations by employees of state agencies and institutions of higher education through a payroll deduction plan. Because donations are required to be sent to a regional council to administer the program, some community colleges have expressed interest in directly providing the funds to local charitable organizations without having unnecessary administrative costs deducted by the regional council. This bill excludes public junior colleges from the state employee charitable contribution program by stating that public junior colleges' employees are not considered state employees during a state fiscal year and provides for certain exceptions.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 2491 excludes public junior colleges from the state employee charitable contribution program by stating that public junior colleges' employees are not considered state employees during a state fiscal year and provides for certain exceptions.

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 659H, Government Code, by adding Section 659.1311, as follows:

Sec. 659.1311. PUBLIC JUNIOR COLLEGES. Provides that a public junior college is considered to be an institution of higher education and employees of the public junior college are considered to be state employees during a state fiscal year unless an affirmative decision not to participate under this subchapter is made by the governing board of the public junior college by April 1 of the previous state fiscal year, for purposes of this subchapter.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1997.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.