

By: Zaffirini, et al.
(Howard)

S.B. No. 947

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study and report by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board on the feasibility of providing off-campus employment positions through the Texas college work-study program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 56, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 56.081 to read as follows:

Sec. 56.081. STUDY ON FEASIBILITY OF PROVIDING OFF-CAMPUS WORK-STUDY EMPLOYMENT. (a) In this section, "public junior college" has the meaning assigned by Section 61.003.

(b) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall conduct a study to examine the feasibility of providing employment positions located off-campus through the Texas college work-study program.

(c) The study must identify:

(1) best practices for developing partnerships with employers to provide off-campus employment positions through the work-study program, including best practices learned from other apprenticeship, internship, or mentorship programs in this state or from similar programs in other states;

(2) any careers or industries that are well-suited for providing off-campus employment positions through the work-study program;

(3) current barriers that public junior colleges face

1 in developing partnerships with employers to provide off-campus
2 employment positions through the work-study program, including any
3 staffing needs or limitations on the outreach capabilities of those
4 colleges; and

5 (4) any public junior colleges that demonstrate strong
6 potential for successful participation in a pilot program to
7 develop partnerships with employers to provide off-campus
8 employment positions through the work-study program.

9 (d) Not later than December 1, 2016, the coordinating board
10 shall submit to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker
11 of the house of representatives, and the standing legislative
12 committees with primary jurisdiction over higher education a report
13 on the results of the study and any recommendations for legislative
14 or other action.

15 (e) This section expires September 1, 2017.

16 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
20 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.