

Update on the 85th Texas Legislature



Texas Higher Education
Coordinating Board

Status of Legislative Recommendations

- All 16 Board recommendations have had bills filed in one or both chambers.
- Six bills relating to Coordinating Board recommendations have been heard in at least one committee.
- May 8 is the last day for House committees to report out House bills and resolutions.
- ER is working with bill authors to request hearings for CB bills.

Category 1 Recommendations

Description	Bill Number and Author	Status (As of 03/27/17)
CATEGORY 1 -- BOARD/COMMISSIONER LEVEL		
Coordination of the expansion of higher education	HB 1737 by Alvarado / SB 828 by Seliger	HB 1737 Referred to House Higher Education/ SB 828 Referred to Senate Higher Education
Oversight of degree granting colleges and universities other than public institutions	HB 4220 by M. Gonzalez/ SB 1781 by West	HB 2156 Referred to House Higher Education/ SB 1781 Referred to Senate Higher Education
Improving access and student outcomes in the TEXAS Grant Program	HB 4106 by Morrison/ SB 33 by Zaffirini/ SB 885 by Seliger	SB 33 Referred to Senate Higher Education/ SB 885 Left pending in Senate Higher Education Committee
Improving access and student outcomes in the TEOG program	HB 653 by Clardy/ SB 886 by Seliger	HB 653 Referred to House Higher Education/ SB 886 left pending in Senate Higher Education Committee
Implementing outcomes-based funding for universities and supporting funding community college success points	HB 430 by Jarvis/ HB 1241 by Giddings/ SB 34 by Zaffirini / SB 1892 by Bettencourt	HB 430 Referred to House Appropriations/ HB 1241 Left pending in House Higher Education/ SB 34 and SB 1892 referred to Senate Higher Education

Category 2 Recommendations

Description	Bill Number and Author	Status (As of 03/27/17)
CATEGORY 2 -- COMMISSIONER/ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER LEVEL		
Requiring certain information on financial aid award letters to students	HB 836 by Clardy/ SB 887 by Seliger	HB 836 passed House Higher Education Committee/ SB 887 passed Senate Higher Education Committee and received in the House
Elimination of certain formula funding and dropped course restrictions for returning adult students	HB 654 by Clardy/ SB 1782 by West	HB 654 referred to House Higher Education/ SB 1782 Referred to Senate Higher Education
Authorizing opportunities for certain community colleges to offer new baccalaureate degrees in nursing and applied science	SB 367 by Garcia, SB 644 by Watson, SB 598 by Bettencourt, SB 645 by Watson, SB 2118 by Seliger, etc.	Bills waiting to be referred or have been referred to Senate Higher Education
Prioritizing graduate medical education over the creation of new medical schools (RESOLUTION)	HCR 102 by Lozano	Filed
Requiring the Coordinating Board to perform a Study on Shortages in Certain Health Professions	HB 3048 by Ortega	Filed
Relating to the Texas college work-study program and to establishing a program for the off-campus employment of certain students at public or private institutions of higher education. (Texas WORKS)	HB 3179 by Lozano/ SB 1467 by West	HB 3179 Filed/ SB 1467 to be discussed in Senate Higher Education on March 29

Category 3 Recommendations

Description	Bill Number and Author	Status (As of 03/27/17)
CATEGORY 3 -- PROGRAMMATIC STAFF LEVEL		
Updating the statute relating to the Work-Study Mentorship Program	HB 796 by Clardy/ SB 2082 by L. Taylor	HB 796 Referred to House Higher Education/ SB 2082 filed
Updating the provisions of the common admission application	HB 3585 by Turner/ SB 1813 by Buckingham/ SB 1899 by West	HB 3585 Filed/ SB 1813 and SB 1899 Referred to Senate Higher Education
Expanding the applicability of the Statewide Preceptorship Program	SB 491 by Watson	Placed on Senate Intent Calendar on March 29, 2017
Updating the student loan program statute	SB 2048 by Bettencourt	Filed
Higher Education Assistance Plans	SB 1794 by Menendez	Referred to Senate Education

Other Higher Education Issues

Tuition and Fees

- **SB 18 (Seliger) adopted by Senate Higher Education Committee on February 22 would eliminate the designated tuition set-aside requirement.**
- **SB 19 (Seliger) adopted by Senate Higher Education Committee on March 27.**
 - **The Committee-adopted version would freeze university tuition and fee rates for the next two years at 2016-17 levels.**
 - **In subsequent years, institutions would only be allowed to raise tuition above inflation if they meet targets on certain performance measures.**

Other Higher Education Issues

Coordinating Board Loan Program

- **SB 1380 (Seliger) and HB 2705 (Lozano) would authorize state higher education authorities to make alternative education loans using General Obligation bonds. They would no longer be required to restrict their territories to within the boundaries of the city or cities that created them.**