SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT HIGHER EDUCATION LEGISLATION

76th LEGISLATURE

TEXAS HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD
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HIGHLIGHTS OF SIGNIFICANT HIGHER EDUCATION LEGISLATION

APPROPRIATIONS

< ***HB 1 – Funding Summary*** (p. 1-2, including All Funds and General Revenue)

General Revenue Appropriations Funding for the Biennium (does not include tuition and fees)

- Total amount of general revenue to all institutions and CB – $8.6 billion – an increase of $1.1 billion (14.8%) over the 1998-99 biennium (see p. 2) (These are preliminary figures. Institutional percentage increases below include tobacco settlement proceeds; however, they do not include the FY 2001 three percent faculty salary increase.) All segments of higher education increased:

  - Community/junior colleges – 9.8%
  - TSTC – 33.5%
  - Lamar State Colleges – 67.6%
  - General academic institutions – 14.3%
  - Health-related institutions – 14%
  - Tx. A&M U. Services (Extension Service, Ag. Engineering, etc.) – 20.6%
  - All other higher education agencies, including the Coordinating Board – 55.7%
  - System trusteed funds – 103.3%

- Legislature appropriated to the CB $154.7 million in new trusteed funds (including $100 million for the TEXAS Grant Program, an increase of $30 million for TEG, $14 million for community college growth, and $7 million in tobacco settlement proceeds for two grant programs)

< ***HB 1 – Appropriations Act Riders***

- CB to study possible alternative admissions criteria and the effects of accessibility to distance education for under-represented groups (p. 3)
- CB to develop a survey to be administered to all tenured and tenure-track faculty who terminate employment (p. 3)
- CB to develop and implement a Developmental Education Accountability Pilot Program (p. 4)
- The CB to distribute funding for the Economically Disadvantaged Student Retention Performance Fund to general academics that increase retention of first-time, full-time economically disadvantaged undergraduates (p. 4)
- The CB may continue the Comptroller's higher education disparity study, including maintaining and updating the database (p. 4)

MAJOR GRANT PROGRAM

- *HB 713* – Establishes the TEXAS Grant Program – Toward EXcellence, Access, & Success and the Teach for Texas Conditional Grant Program (p. 6-7)

ADMISSIONS

- *HB 1678* – Requires CB to develop and update a uniform strategy to identify, attract, retain, and enroll students that reflect the population of the state (p. 7-8)
- *HB 2867* – Allows institutions to match scholarships for Texas students who receive admissions and scholarship offers from out-of-state institutions (p. 8)

BONDS – HINSON-HAZLEWOOD LOAN PROGRAM

- *SB 184/SJR 16* – Authorizes CB to issue $400 million in additional bonds, upon approval by the voters on November 2, 1999 (p. 10)

CAMPUS PLANNING

- *HB 3319* – Raises thresholds for CB review of construction projects to $1 million for new construction and $2 million for repair and rehabilitation (p. 11)

CONSTITUTIONAL REVISIONS

- *HJR 58* – Directs the UT System to invest the PUF using the prudent investor rule and to change the amount of distributions from the AUF (p. 12)

FACULTY/ADMINISTRATORS

- *HB 746* – Directs CB to report on faculty or professional staff who consult or testify as expert witnesses in suits in which the state is a party (p. 19-20)

FUNDING LIMITATIONS

- *SB 345* – Replaces the 170-hour limitation with a limitation of 45 hours above the student's degree plan. It also grandfathers existing students. (p. 23)

HEALTH-RELATED BILLS

- *HB 1945* – Establishes several funds with tobacco settlement proceeds. The funds will go to health-related institutions and allied health/nursing programs and for minority health research and education (p. 23-24)
- *HB 2025* – Establishes the Border Health Institute in El Paso (p. 24)
- *SB 590* – Establishes the Texas A&M University System Coastal Bend Health Education Center (p. 24)
- *SB 1288* – Establishes the UT Health Science Center at San Antonio campus extension in Laredo (p. 25)
- *SB 1378* – Directs CB, with the Dept. of Health, to review medical training needs in the Texas-Mexico border region (p. 25)

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

- *SB 1853* – Requires community colleges to report on the variety of students attending their institutions (p. 27)

ROLE AND MISSION/INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

- *HB 888* – Allows A&M-Galveston to offer graduate degree programs (p. 28)
- *HB 1049* – Designates TSTC-Marshall as a campus of TSTC System (p. 28)
- *HB 1314* – Authorizes UT MD Anderson to offer degrees (p. 28)
- *SB 751* – Establishes the UNT System (p. 29)
- *SB 1088* – Establishes the Texas Tech System (p. 29)
- *SB 1651* – Establishes Texas Chiropractic College as a public institution if it finds a willing system and the CB approves (p. 29)

TUITION AND FEES

- *HB 3138* – Permits an institution to reduce tuition for students taking more than 15 hours (p. 31)

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HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING

***HB 1, General Appropriations Act (Junell/Ratliff)* – This section summarizes higher education appropriations and significant Appropriations Act riders.**

APPROPRIATIONS

- The **All Funds** and **General Revenue** amounts shown below include the tobacco settlement money allocated to higher education institutions and the Coordinating Board in Article XII as well as the Article IX $100 non-faculty salary increase authorized for FY 2000. The amount of the FY 2001 faculty salary increase (not to exceed 3 percent and dependent upon certification of adequate funds) has not yet been determined and is not included in these totals.

- The total budget (including **all funds**) for the State of Texas during the 2000-01 biennium will be $97.7 billion, an increase of 13.45 percent. The total **all funds** budget for higher education will be $12.5 billion, 12.8 percent of the state budget. The following table shows the distribution of the higher education **all funds** appropriation (in millions) for the 2000-01 biennium:

	Amount	% of Approp.
General Academic Institutions	$4,759	37.98%
Community/Junior Colleges	1,630	13.01
Health-Related Institutions	3,781	30.17
Technical & Lamar State Colleges	193	1.54
HEAF/Available University Fund	975	7.78
A&M University System Services	602	4.81
All Other Higher Education Agencies	559	4.46
System Trusteed Funds	32	.26
TOTAL	**$12,532**	**100%**

- **All funds** (general revenue and consolidated funds) appropriated for higher education will increase by approximately $1.6 billion (14.6 percent). The following table shows the *increase* between the current biennium and the 2000-01 biennium **all funds** appropriation (in millions) for each sector.

	Increase	
	Amount	Percent
General Academic Institutions	$546.9	12.98%
Community/Junior Colleges	145.8	9.82
Health-Related Institutions	565.1	17.58
Technical & Lamar State Colleges	56.0	40.72
HEAF/Available University Fund	21.2	2.22
A&M University System Services	83.3	16.05
All Other Higher Education Agencies	165.4	42.03
System Trusteed Funds	13.1	67.60
TOTAL	**$1,596.8**	**14.60%**

- The total **general revenue** budget for the State of Texas during the 2000-01 biennium will be $55.1 billion, an increase of 15.2 percent. **General revenue** appropriated for higher education for the 2000-01 biennium is approximately $8.6 billion, an increase of $1.1 billion (14.81 percent). Higher education funding constitutes 15.6 percent of the state's total 2000-01 general revenue appropriations.

- The following table shows the distribution of the biennial **general revenue** appropriation (in millions) for the 2000-01 biennium:

	Amount	% of Approp.
General Academic Institutions	$3,575	41.56%
Community/Junior Colleges	1,630	18.95
Health-Related Institutions	2,013	23.40
Technical & Lamar State Colleges	165	1.91
HEAF/Available University Fund	449	5.22
A&M University System Services	319	3.70
All Other Higher Education Agencies	424	4.93
System Trusteed Funds	27	.32
TOTAL	**$8,602**	**100%**

The following table shows the *increase* between the current biennium and the 2000-01 biennium **general revenue** appropriation (in millions) for each sector.

	Increase	
	Amount	Percent
General Academic Institutions	$447.2	14.30%
Community/Junior Colleges	145.8	9.82
Health-Related Institutions	247.9	14.04
Technical & Lamar State Colleges	48.4	41.74
HEAF/Available University Fund	0	0.00
A&M University System Services	54.5	20.63
All Other Higher Education Agencies	151.7	55.67
System Trusteed Funds	14.0	103.29
TOTAL	**$1,109.5**	**14.81%**

< The totals for the health-related institutions include appropriations for Baylor College of Medicine – both the funds that are trusteed to the Coordinating Board as well as tobacco settlement proceeds from the endowment established for Baylor in HB 1945. Therefore, the increase in health-related funding includes the increase in funding for Baylor that was trusteed to the Coordinating Board.

- The Legislature appropriated to the Coordinating Board $154.7 million in new trusteed funds. Most of the increase will be used to fund the TEXAS Grant and Teach for Texas Grant Programs ($100 million), additional TEG grants ($30 million), community college growth ($14 million), and $7 million in tobacco settlement proceeds for two grant programs. Overall the CB trusteed funds budget will increase from $344.9 million to $499.6 million, or 44.9 percent.

- The Legislature appropriated $157.2 million ($110.1 million in general revenue and $47.1 million in other funds) for a $100 per month non-faculty employee pay raise for all institutions and higher education agencies (including the Coordinating Board), except community colleges. In addition, the Legislature has provided that a faculty salary increase not to exceed three percent will occur in FY 2001 upon certification by the Comptroller that adequate funds are available. At this time, the Comptroller has not provided an estimate of the total potential amount of that faculty salary increase. Therefore, that figure is not included in the totals in this report. Coordinating Board staff estimates that the amount of the salary increase will probably range from $30 to $35 million.

- Receipts collected pursuant to the Comprehensive Tobacco Settlement Agreement and Release were appropriated in Article XII of the General Appropriations Act. Several permanent endowments were established in HB 1945 (see "Health-Related Legislation" section) and the income from those endowments will be used by the health-related institutions and other higher education institutions. Higher education received $1.015 billion out of the $1.657 billion in permanent endowments that were created from the tobacco settlement receipts. The earnings from the endowments for the 2000-2001 biennium are estimated to be $101.5 million and are reflected in the totals shown above.

COORDINATING BOARD RIDERS

Rider #

18 This rider directs the Coordinating Board to conduct four studies (listed below). The Board is to summarize the information for each of the studies and present the results and any recommendations to the Legislature no later than December 1, 2000:

18(1) In consultation with institutions of higher education, the Coordinating Board may conduct a study to identify possible alternative admissions criteria, including supporting methodologies, that would better predict collegiate success.

18(2) In consultation with institutions of higher education, the Coordinating Board may conduct a study to review the effects of accessibility to distance education for under-represented groups in Texas.

18(3) The Coordinating Board may develop a survey instrument to be administered by institutions to all tenured and tenure-track faculty who terminate employment at a general academic institution, health-related institution, or technical college. Departing faculty members shall send each completed survey directly to the Board no later than October 1 each year.

18(4) All academic health centers with medical schools that receive a state appropriation are authorized to review the current curriculum content and requirements for medical ethics, humanities and jurisprudence for medical students at their institution, including current instruction and integration into the basic sciences, clinical clerkships, and elective experiences. The review shall consider current testable material in these subject areas as might appear on each part of the licensure exam. Institutions shall report this information to the Coordinating Board in a format prescribed by the Board.

31/32 In these riders, the Legislature establishes developmental education accountability pilot programs for general academic institutions and community and technical colleges. Under each program, the Board is to select participating institutions from those that volunteer. In consultation with the LBB, the Board will calculate allocations to the fund based a formula included in the rider.

The bases for the allocations differ by type of institution – for general academics, the allocation will be based on the number of students who successfully complete developmental education during the previous fiscal year; for community and technical colleges, the allocation will be based on the improvements made in academic preparation of students who have previously been evaluated as not meeting basic college readiness standards as defined by the Coordinating Board, and who have completed a developmental education program in the previous year.

It is the intent of the Legislature that the performance funding should be allocated to individual institutions in such a way that remedying large deficiencies in college readiness will result in proportionately more funding than remedying minor deficiencies. Also, institutions that demonstrate an increase in performance should not experience a reduction in developmental education funding received through the pilot program.

It is also the intent of the Legislature that to be eligible for state funding, public institutions of higher education shall have developmental education programs certified or accredited by a nationally recognized developmental education entity by fall 2005. Institutions shall report progress on this goal.

The Coordinating Board, in conjunction with pilot program participants, shall produce an interim report evaluating the effectiveness of the program and making recommendations for further expansion no later than December 31, 2000.

34 The CB shall include in the annual performance reporting beginning in Fiscal Year 2000, the percentage of economically disadvantaged freshmen retained at public institutions of higher education as defined by the LBB and Governor's Office in consultation with the Auditor's Office.

35 The Coordinating Board, in conjunction with the formula advisory committees, shall review the impact of short-term fluctuations in enrollment at the general academics on formula funding and make recommendations to address the issue to the 77th Legislature.

37 The Coordinating Board shall distribute funding appropriated for the Economically Disadvantaged Student Retention Performance Fund to general academic institutions based on increases in the retention of first-time, full-time economically disadvantaged undergraduates who make satisfactory academic progress. Only those institutions showing an increase of at least five percent shall be eligible for the fund. Allocations to eligible institutions shall be proportional to the number of first-time, full-time economically disadvantaged undergraduates retained for one academic year.

38 The Coordinating Board may continue the higher education disparity study conducted by the Comptroller. The Board may maintain and update as necessary the database developed for the study.

HIGHER EDUCATION SPECIAL PROVISION RIDERS

38 The Coordinating Board shall review actual enrollment numbers for the TxPHARM program and in consultation with the LBB provide adjusted semester credit hour funding amounts to the Comptroller at the beginning of each year of the biennium.

39 Institutions that have major fire safety projects, as identified by the State Fire Marshall's Office, shall remedy the fire safety issues and complete any related construction and renovation projects as soon as practical. Institutions shall consult with the Fire Marshall and develop a time line for completion of the projects. They must also implement the interim safety precautions recommended by the Fire Marshall. The Fire Marshall is to submit periodic reports to the House Appropriations and Senate Finance Committees on the progress of the institutions in remedying the fire safety issues.

41/42 For institutions participating in the Developmental Education Accountability Pilot Program (see Coordinating Board riders 31/32, above), funds appropriated for developmental education shall be expended only for those costs associated with the operation of the developmental education program and a reasonable amount for indirect administration. The amounts shall be accounted for separately from other funds to ensure that the use of the funds can be readily tracked for financial reporting and auditing purposes. Institutions may expend additional amounts for developmental education.

45 Each general academic institution shall report the average salary increase provided to faculty at the institution to the LBB and the Governor's Budget Office by January 31 each year on a form prescribed by the Coordinating Board.

46 Out of funds appropriated to the Coordinating Board for Baylor College of Medicine; The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston; and The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, each may expend up to $1,000,000 to fund one endowed chair or professorship for spinal cord injury research. Each institution must pursue an equal amount of matching funds from the Institute of Rehabilitation and Research.

OTHER AGENCY/INSTITUTION RIDERS

TEA 74 The Texas Education Agency, Department of Information Resources, General Services Commission, State Board for Educator Certification, Telecommunications Infrastructure Board, Texas State Library and Archives, the Coordinating Board and the colleges of education shall direct a representative of their agency or institution to participate in an Education Technology Coordinating Council designed to ensure the cooperation and coordination of the state's efforts to implement education technology initiatives.

The Council is to develop a statewide master plan for educational technology, with particular attention to the coordination of pre-service and in-service training for teachers and librarians. The participating agencies shall share resources as necessary to provide adequate staff for the Council. TEA will be the lead agency for the Council and determine the time line for the project.

A&M 4 The A&M System is appropriated $100,000 in FY 2000 and $1,500,000 in FY 2001, subject to the approval of the Coordinating Board, for the system to operate the University Center at Palo Alto.

ARTICLE IX RIDERS

11.18 No appropriated funds may be expended for payment of a contract workforce (for contracts executed, amended or renewed after 8/31/99) until an agency or institution develops comprehensive policies and procedures for its contract workforce; examines the legal and personnel issues related to the use of that workforce; conducts a cost-benefit analysis of its current contract workforce prior to hiring additional workers (or amending or renewing existing contracts); and documents why and how the use of contract workers fit into agency staffing strategies.

Each year the agency shall file a report on the agency's use of contract workers in the preceding fiscal year with the LBB, Governor's Budget Office, and State Auditor.

MAJOR GRANT PROGRAM
[See Financial Aid Section below for other financial aid bills]

HB 713 (Cuellar/Ellis) – This is an omnibus financial aid bill.

(1) The bill establishes the TEXAS Grant Program – Toward EXcellence, Access, & Success. It provides grants to Texas students who graduate from a public or accredited private Texas high school and who enroll at a public or independent institution of higher education. In awarding grants, the highest priority will be given to students with the greatest financial need. To be eligible, students must complete the recommended or advanced high school curriculum or its equivalent.

After the initial award, eligibility will continue for each semester in which the student makes satisfactory academic progress toward an undergraduate degree or certificate. Satisfactory progress is defined (a) in the student's first academic year, as the institution's requirement for satisfactory academic progress; and (b) in subsequent years, as completion of 75 percent of the courses attempted and a GPA of 2.5.

It also establishes the Teach for Texas conditional grant program to provide a conditional grant to a junior or senior student pursuing a baccalaureate degree who agrees to enter a teaching field in a critical shortage area or field. Grant recipients receive an additional amount, equal to twice the TEXAS grant. For the first two years, a student will not have had to receive the TEXAS grant to be eligible for a Teach for Texas grant. Beginning in fall 2001, students will have to have received a TEXAS grant to be eligible. If a grant recipient fails to provide the required five years of teaching service, the grant becomes a loan and must be repaid.

The grant amount is the statewide average tuition and fees for each type of institution (public university, community or technical college). Students at private/independent institutions receive the same amount as public universities; however, the total combined amount of the TEXAS grant and the Tuition Equalization Grant a student may receive cannot exceed the maximum amount allowed by the TEG statute (this fall that amount is $3,380). Public institutions may not charge students who receive a TEXAS grant an amount of tuition and fees

in excess of the amount of the grant. However, an institution may use other available sources of financial aid, other than loans and Pell grants, to cover the difference in the actual amount of tuition and fees and the grant amount.

A legislative oversight committee will be established to monitor implementation of the grant program.

(2) In addition, the bill also repeals statutes for several existing financial aid programs and transfers funding for those programs into the TEXAS program: tuition and fee exemptions for Texas National Guard/ROTC students, the Texas New Horizons Scholarship Program, the Texas Educational Opportunity Grant Program (which has never been funded), and the Texas Tuition Assistance Grant Program. Students who are currently receiving grants under these programs will continue to receive their grants as long as they are eligible. The funding for these programs will be transferred into the TEXAS grant program.

(3) The bill establishes the Center for Financial Aid Information. The Center will be administered by the Coordinating Board in cooperation with institutions of higher education, Texas Education Agency, public school counselors, financial aid officers, regional service centers, and the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation. It will provide information on financial aid and higher education to middle and high school students and their parents as well as counselors. A toll-free number will be established.

(4) The bill also requires the Coordinating Board to review and study financial aid laws and recommend improvements in existing programs to maximize their benefits. The Board is also to study the impact of the grant program on enrollments at universities and colleges, including any shifts in enrollments that might occur because of the difference in grant amounts for university and community college students. The Coordinating Board must also report on the performance of students as that relates to whether a student completed the recommended or advanced curriculum.

(5) The bill amends Subchapter M of Chapter 61 to establish a loan repayment program for faculty who earned their doctorates prior to 1994 and who are teaching at institutions located in a Border county.

(6) It directs the Texas Education Agency, State Board for Educator Certification and the Coordinating Board to work together (to the extent funds are available) to develop and implement programs to identify talented students and recruit them to be teachers; to encourage businesses to cooperate with local schools to develop recruiting programs; and to encourage major education associations to cooperate in developing a long-range program promoting teaching as a career. The Coordinating Board shall also assist TEA and SBEC in identifying underserved teaching fields and geographic regions.

(7) The Coordinating Board shall adopt educator preparation coursework guidelines that promote the integration of subject matter knowledge with classroom teaching strategies and techniques.

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

ADMISSIONS

HB 1678 (Rangel/Barrientos) – Requires the Coordinating Board to develop and annually update a uniform strategy to identify, attract, retain, and enroll students that reflect the population of the state. Higher education institutions will implement the strategy and report annually to the Coordinating Board. The Board must complete the strategy by January 1, 2000.

Effective Date *August 30, 1999*

HB 1804 (Morrison/Armbrister) – Applies the top ten percent automatic admissions law to graduates of high schools operated by the US Department of Defense as long as those students are residents of Texas or entitled to pay tuition and fees at the rate of Texas residents.

Effective Date *August 30, 1999*

HB 2867 (Dunnam/West) – Allows institutions to use state appropriations to match scholarships for Texas students who receive admissions and scholarship offers from out-of-state institutions. An amendment added by the Senate Education Committee requires verification of offers. Not later than December 31, 2000, the Coordinating Board shall report on the initial implementation, including a description of the students to whom scholarships were offered and awarded as reported to the Coordinating Board by each institution. The report shall also include a description of the methods used by each institution to encourage Texas high school graduates to attend Texas institutions of higher education. The report will be sent to the presiding officer of the standing committee on higher education in each house of the Legislature.

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

SB 510 (Shapleigh/Rangel) – Requires school districts to require each high school to post appropriate signs in several places to inform students of the law requiring automatic college admission for the top 10 percent of each graduating class. Districts are also required to provide information to counselors and class advisors and to provide each eligible senior student a detailed explanation of the law.

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

SIGNIFICANT ADMISSIONS LEGISLATION THAT DID NOT PASS

HB 546 (Maxey) – Would have prohibited a higher education institution from requiring an applicant for admission to report, submit, or disclose the applicant's performance level on a standardized assessment, achievement, or admissions test if the applicant had a disability that was likely to affect the applicant's performance on the standardized test, as certified by a licensed physician or other licensed health care provider.

Final Status: House Higher Education Committee hearing, 2/23; left pending

HB 1106 (Rangel)/SB 626 (Barrientos) – Would have established a legislative finding that the present effects of past segregation still exist in Texas public higher education and that these effects required the implementation of remedial measures. It would have allowed undergraduate, graduate, and professional schools to consider the "African-American race and Mexican-American national origin" of applicants when making admissions and financial aid decisions.

Each institution of higher education would have had to provide an annual evaluation report on the effectiveness of its programs established under the statute, the availability of alternatives to achieving full participation in higher education, and any harm caused to third parties by the those programs.

Final Status: HB 1106 – House Higher Education Committee hearing, 3/30; left pending
SB 626 – Referred to Senate Education Committee, 2/23; no hearing

HB 1128 (Cuellar) – Would have required the Coordinating Board to set up intensive, multi-week training programs designed to evaluate and prepare students for professional degree programs in law, medicine, and other areas.

Final Status: House Higher Education Committee hearing, 3/30; left pending

HB 1257 (Rangel) – Would have amended the indemnification statute for state employees to include admissions officials at public higher education institutions and medical and dental schools. The state would have been required to represent and indemnify admissions officials for actions taken in the course of admitting students if the officials lost a lawsuit arising from their admissions decisions.

Final Status: House Higher Education Committee hearing, 3/30; left pending

HB 1266 (McClendon)/SB 282 (Madla) – Would have required the state's general academic teaching institutions to automatically admit students who in the preceding year had successfully completed a two-year degree or certificate program of at least 30 semester credit hours at a public community or technical college, with a minimum GPA of 3.0.

Final Status: HB 1266 – Reported from House Higher Education Committee, 4/28
SB 282 – Referred to Senate Education Committee, 2/1; no hearing

HB 2770 (Rangel)/SB 1356 (Barrientos) – Would have required graduate and professional programs at general academic and health-related institutions to consider any, all, or a combination of certain socioeconomic factors in making admissions or scholarship decisions beginning in the 2000-01 academic year. The factors would have included the applicant's academic record as a high school and undergraduate student; the socioeconomic background of the applicant while the applicant attended elementary and secondary school and was an undergraduate student; and whether the applicant would be the first generation of the applicant's family to attend or graduate from an undergraduate, graduate, or professional program.

An applicant's performance on a standardized test could have been used in the admissions or scholarship process only to compare the applicant's test score with those of other applicants from similar socioeconomic backgrounds.

Final Status: HB 2770 – House Higher Education Committee hearing, 4/13; left pending
SB 1356 – Passed Senate, 5/6; Set on House calendar, 5/25; not considered

HB 2913 (King, Phil) – Would have ensured that people applying for admission to institutions of higher education and who presented appropriate evidence of having completed a home-school curriculum or who had received some other kind of nontraditional secondary education would not be subjected to different, unusual, or more rigorous conditions for admission than students who had graduated from a public high school. The bill would also have prohibited institutions from requiring an applicant to have a G.E.D. or other high school equivalency certificate or credentials.

Final Status: House Higher Education Committee hearing, 4/27; left pending

SB 809 (Barrientos) – Would have established a $10 million fund for the Coordinating Board to allocate to institutions to establish programs to recruit and retain educationally or economically disadvantaged students. The bill would have required the Board to study the best practices among recruitment and retention programs currently operating in Texas and the nation, then report the study findings to the Legislature and make those findings available to the public.

Final Status: Referred to Senate Finance Committee, 3/4; no hearing

SB 811 (Barrientos) – Would have created the Texas Commission on Participation in Education to study, promote, and assist entities to implement strategies and programs to foster full participation in public education and other educational opportunities, with special attention to the economically and educationally disadvantaged. The Commission would have included members appointed by the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Speaker. It would also have included the Commissioner of Education and two members appointed by the Commissioner of Higher Education.

Final Status: Referred to Senate Education Committee, 3/4; no hearing

BONDS – HINSON HAZLEWOOD LOAN PROGRAM

SB 184 (Barrientos/Hunter) – Authorizes the Coordinating Board to issue, subject to voter approval of a constitutional amendment authorizing the action (SJR 16), $400 million in general obligation bonds to provide student loans for the Hinson-Hazlewood College Student Loan Program.

Effective Date *Upon passage of SJR 16, November 2, 1999*

SJR 16 (Barrientos/Hunter) – Proposes a constitutional amendment authorizing the Coordinating Board to issue $400 million in general obligation bonds to provide student loans through the Hinson-Hazlewood College Student Loan Program. The resolution will be submitted to Texas voters for approval.

Final Status *On November 2, 1999 ballot*

CAMPUS PLANNING

HB 3211 (McCall/Duncan) – This bill generally deals with the Comptroller's Office. However, a few of the provisions of this bill are relevant to higher education. One provision would change the Higher Education Fund (HEAF) allocation to institutions. This is the re-allocation that is done every five years as required by the HEAF statute. The bill also includes enabling legislation to implement the anticipated changes included in HJR 58 which would change the methodology for making investments of the Permanent University Fund to the prudent investor rule and would change the distribution from the Available University Fund.

Effective Date of HEAF Provisions *June 19, 1999*
PUF/AUF Provisions *Upon passage of SJR 58, November 2, 1999*

HB 3319 (Cuellar/Bivins) – Raises the thresholds for the Coordinating Board's review of institutional construction projects to $1,000,000 for new construction and $2,000,000 for repair and rehabilitation.

Effective Date *May 24, 1999*

COMMUNITY/TECHNICAL COLLEGES

HB 1869 (Pitts/Nelson) – Redefines the territory that a community college district may annex. It will allow the territory to include a county or part of a county that is adjacent to the junior college district (without restrictions on the population size of the county). It will also allow community colleges to annex territory that is located in the statutory service area of the district. It removes the requirement that the territory be contiguous with the community college district. It also provides that a junior college district may not annex territory if the territory is located in the same county as any part of the junior college district and a campus of the Texas State Technical College System is located within the county and outside the junior college district.

Effective Date *August 30, 1999*

HB 2401 (Keffer/Lucio) – Places the Tech-Prep program into state statute. It defines the membership and roles of regional Tech-Prep consortia, their governing boards, their directors, and their fiscal agents. Additionally, the bill defines the processes for the allotment of federal funds to the Tech-Prep consortia, as well as consortia grant applications, five-year plans, and annual reports.

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

HB 2415 (Keffer) – (1) Restricts operation and land purchase privileges of branch campus or extension center/facilities to a community college's service area, (2) restricts course offerings by a community college within another college's service area, and (3) allows a community college district to be compensated by another community college district for a branch campus or extension center/facility when the jurisdiction in which campus/center/facility is located is annexed by the second community college district.

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

SB 1780 (Fraser) – Establishes a fund for the development, design, modification or renovation of specific high priority technical programs in community and technical colleges. The Coordinating Board must adopt rules to define these programs, establish the eligibility of institutions to participate, and establish other guidelines and procedures for administration of the fund. Participating colleges must report on the progress of funded programs annually by September 1. The Board must evaluate the effectiveness of the law and report its findings to the Legislative Budget Board by September 1 of the second year of each biennium. [No funding was provided in the Appropriations Act to implement this bill.]

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

SB 1819 (Luna/Puente) – Directs the Texas State Technical College System Board of Regents to develop and administer a program to forecast the types of technical education programs that are needed to maintain and improve the state's economic and technological competitiveness. The program will review the state's business and industry workforce needs for trained and

educated workers and suggest specific technical education programs in specific areas that are needed to ensure or that would enhance the state's economic and technological competitiveness. The board may recommend the creation of new technical education programs or new methods of delivering technical education programs. The board is to provide information and recommendations developed under the program to any public institution that provides technical education programs or that the board determines should offer technical education programs.

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

SIGNIFICANT COMMUNITY/TECHNICAL COLLEGE LEGISLATION THAT DID NOT PASS

HB 1626 (Oliveira) – Would have created the Public Junior College and Technical Institute Facilities and Equipment Grant Program to provide competitive grants to institutions that demonstrated a need for facility and equipment enhancements and were located in communities with low per capita property wealth. Grants could have been used to construct or improve facilities or obtain equipment. Criteria to be used in assessing an institution's application for a grant award would have included per capita property wealth, unemployment rates, enrollment growth of the institution, average level of education attainment of the community, and community support for the proposal.

Final Status: House Higher Education Committee hearing, 3/2; left pending

CONSTITUTIONAL REVISIONS

HJR 58 (Junell/Ratliff) – As passed, the bill does not change any Permanent University Fund (PUF) or Higher Education Fund (HEAF) schools. It directs The University of Texas System Board of Regents to invest the PUF using the prudent investor rule – making investments that a prudent investor exercising reasonable care, skill, and caution, would acquire or retain in light of the purposes, terms, distribution requirements, and other circumstances of the fund then prevailing, taking into consideration the investment of all the assets of the fund rather than a single investment. It also directs the board of regents to make the amount of any distributions to the Available University Fund (AUF) in a manner intended to provide the AUF with a stable and predictable stream of annual distributions and to maintain over time the purchasing power of PUF investments and annual distributions to the AUF. The implementing legislation is included in HB 3211 (see page 10).

As introduced, this bill would have revised the Texas Constitution to move all institutions out of the PUF, except The University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M University, and Prairie View A&M University, and into the HEAF. It would also have changed the reallocation timing for the HEAF. Instead of every five years, the HEAF would have been allocated biennially in the Appropriations Act. The Coordinating Board would have made recommendations each biennium on the allocation.

Final Status *On November 2,1999 ballot*

HJR 62 (Mowery/Shapiro) – Makes technical corrections to the Texas Constitution. Included is cleanup of the Hinson-Hazlewood College Student Loan Program bonds section, including the repeal of several sections that are no longer needed.

Final Status *On November 2,1999 ballot*

SIGNIFICANT CONSTITUTIONAL REVISION LEGISLATION THAT DID NOT PASS

SJR 1 (Ratliff)/HJR 1 (Junell) – Would have completely revised the existing Texas Constitution, establishing Article 7 for education.

Relating to higher education, the revision would have limited the PUF to The University of Texas at Austin, Texas A&M University, and Prairie View A&M University. All other PUF institutions would have been transferred into the HEAF.

In addition, the revision would have strengthened the authority of the governor. For example, it would have established a governor's cabinet consisting of a number of state departments including education, but excluding higher education.

Final Status: SJR 1 – Senate State Affairs hearing, 3/23; left pending
HJR 1 – Referred to House Special Committee on Constitutional Revision, 2/4; no hearing

COORDINATING BOARD/AGENCY OPERATIONS

HB 156 (Wolens/Wentworth) – Expands the definition of "meeting" in the Open Meetings Act to include a "gathering." It defines gathering as a meeting called by the governmental body, with a quorum present, where members receive information from, give information to, ask questions of, or receive questions from any third person, including an employee of the governmental body, about the public business or public policy over which the governmental body has supervision or control.

Effective Date *August 30, 1999*

HB 2835 (Turner/Shapleigh) – Provides that state agencies (other than institutions of higher education) that receive appropriations greater than $75 million must post the following information on the Internet:

(1) an analysis of all agency expenditures during the two preceding fiscal years that lists for each county in the state the amount of agency expenditures made in or for the benefit of the county;

(2) if that information is not available, an analysis that approximates compliance with subsection (1), above, to the greatest possible extent, by geographic region;

(3) a profile of the governing officer or of each member of the governing body of the agency, including the office address of each officer or member;

(4) a listing and description of all contracts with vendors that exceed $100,000;

(5) a brief description of the agency's duties; and

(6) an electronic link to the agency's rules.

Effective Date *October 1, 1999*

SB 191 (Ogden/Junell) – Prohibits the executive head of a state agency from being reassigned to another position in the agency or at another agency controlled by the same governing body unless the governing body, in an open meeting, votes to approve the proposed reassignment. In addition, a state agency cannot enter into a contract with the executive head, with a person

who at any time during the four years before the date of the contract was the executive head, or with a person who employs a current or former executive head, unless the governing body votes, in an open meeting, to approve the contract, and notifies the LBB, no later than the fifth day before the vote, of the terms of the proposed contract. The legislation also makes all records related to the terms of a reassignment or a contract with a current or former executive head public information.

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

SB 382 (Duncan/Smithee) – Amends state statutes concerning rule-making authority. It provides that

(1) In preparation for the implementation of legislation that has become law but has not taken effect, an agency may adopt a rule or take other administrative action that is necessary or appropriate and that the agency would have been authorized to take had the legislation been in effect at the time of the action (however, the rule may not take effect earlier than the effective date of the legislation).

(2) In preparation for the implementation of a rule that has been finally adopted but has not taken effect, an agency may take administrative action that is necessary or appropriate and that the agency would have been authorized to take had the rule been in effect.

(3) The order finally adopting a rule must include a reasoned justification for the rule as adopted. The bill clarifies that this justification must include a summary of the factual basis for the rule which demonstrates a rational connection between the factual basis for the rule and the rule as adopted.

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

SB 501 (Shapleigh/Oliveira) – Amends the statute governing agency strategic plans. It adds the identification of each geographic region of the state, including the Texas-Louisiana border region and the Texas-Mexico border region, served by the agency, and if appropriate, the agency's means and strategies for serving each region.

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

SB 801 (Ellis/Maxey) – Provides that a state agency must make available through the Internet the text of its rules and any material that explains or interprets one or more of its rules and that the agency has issued for general distribution to persons affected by the rules. The site must be designed so that a member of the public may send questions and receive answers about the rules to the agency electronically. All agencies shall cooperate to facilitate useful electronic links among sites.

Each agency that receives information from members of the public or from regulated persons by means of a form or that receives money from members of the public or regulated persons must also include in its strategic plan a plan for receiving the forms or payments through electronic means. The plan must include appropriate security measures and include performance measures to allow the Department of Information Resources and the Legislature to evaluate the agency's progress and specify the time when the plan will be fully implemented.

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

SB 1252 (West/McClendon) – Permits an agency to broadcast open meetings over the Internet. It requires a governmental body that broadcasts a meeting over the Internet to provide on the Internet site the same notice of the meeting that the agency is required to post under

Subchapter C of the Open Meetings Act and within the same time required under that Subchapter.

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

SB 1563 (Armbrister/Cuellar) – Provides that state agencies, including institutions of higher education, shall create an inventory of external customers for each budget strategy and gather information from those customers using survey or focus groups or other appropriate methods regarding the quality of service delivered by the agency. The information requested shall be specified by the Governor's Budget Office and LBB and may include evaluation of the agency's:

1 facilities (including the customer's ability to access the agency, the office location, signs, and cleanliness);

2 staff (including employee courtesy, friendliness, and knowledgeability, and whether staff members adequately identify themselves to customers by name);

3 communications (including toll-free numbers, the average time the customer spends on hold, call transfers, access to a live person, letters and electronic mail);

4 Internet site (including the ease of use of the site, information on the location of the site and the agency, and information accessible through the site such as a listing of services and programs and whom to contact for further information or to complain);

5 complaint handling process (including whether it is easy to file a complaint and whether responses are timely);

6 ability to timely serve its customers (including the amount of time a customer waits for service in person, by phone, by letter, or at a website); and

7 brochures or other printed information (including the accuracy of the information).

The agency shall report by June 1 of each even-numbered year on the information gathered to the LBB and the Governor's Office of Budget and Planning. The LBB shall develop a means to measure customer service satisfaction and performance measures for state agencies.

After September 1, 2001, the LBB and Governor's Budget Office may inspect a state agency and analyze its customer service performance by sending a customer service evaluator to confidentially pretend to be a customer of the agency. The legislation establishes the Texas Star Award which may be given to a state agency that provides exemplary customer service.

State agencies must appoint a customer relations representative. In addition, agencies must create a "Compact with Texans," approved by the Governor's Budget Office and the LBB, that sets customer service standards and customer service principles for the agency. The compact must be published on the agency's website.

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

SIGNIFICANT AGENCY-RELATED LEGISLATION THAT DID NOT PASS

HB 432 (Turner) – Would have expanded legislative review of agency rules by authorizing legislative review of a proposed rule or an adopted rule, including an emergency rule, that had been in effect for no more than 180 days, and authorizing the Governor to suspend a reviewed agency rule upon request of the Legislature. An agency could not have proposed or adopted a suspended or a similar rule for two years, unless approved by the governor.

Final Status: Reported favorably by House State Affairs Committee, 4/1

HB 1232 (Rangel) – Would have created a single board to oversee public education and higher education in Texas. The Coordinating Board and the State Board of Education would have been dissolved and a new board would have been created, and a single commissioner would have been appointed by the Governor.

Final Status: House Higher Education Committee hearing, 4/27; left pending

HB 3651 (Rangel/Duncan) – As passed by the House, the bill would have prohibited a governing board of an institution from establishing a partnership or affiliation between a university or health-related institution and any other entity to offer or conduct courses for academic credit or to offer or operate a degree program unless the Coordinating Board determined that the partnership or affiliation was consistent with the institution's role and mission, in accordance with the degree programs authorized for the institution and consistent with the university system, or the partnership or affiliation was approved by an act of the Legislature.

As introduced, the bill would have required the Board to approve affiliations between public and private institutions when the agreement involved programs outside the authorized role and mission of the public institution. It would have prohibited an affiliation between public and private institutions unless the Board and Legislature approved it and the Coordinating Board made a finding that adequate private funding existed for the affiliation.

Final Status: Passed House, 4/27; hearing Senate Higher Education Subcommittee, 5/10; left pending

DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATION

HB 2011 (Cuellar/Zaffirini) – Amends the section of the TASP statute relating to high school students. The existing statute states that "if funds are appropriated for that purpose, the Coordinating Board and TEA shall develop a mechanism for the payment of the cost of the test." The amendment specifies that priority shall be given to the payment of the cost to an eligible high school student shown to be financially needy under criteria established by the Board. In addition, the statute was amended to allow a student to authorize the testing company to report the student's scores to a school administrator. A provision directing the Coordinating Board to adopt rules allowing a student to work at his/her own reasonable pace when taking the test within a prescribed time period was deleted from the final bill.

Effective Date *August 30, 1999*

SB 103 (Bivins/Grusendorf) – Directs the Texas Education Agency to develop several new TAAS tests. Included will be an eleventh grade exit-level assessment that will measure a student's mastery of the minimum skills necessary for high school graduation and readiness to enroll in an institution of higher education. A student who performs at or above a level

established by the Coordinating Board on the secondary exit-level assessment instruments is exempt from the requirements of the TASP law.

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTAL EDUCATION LEGISLATION THAT DID NOT PASS

HB 227 (West) – Would have abolished the Texas Academic Skills Program (TASP) and removed all statutory references to the statute from other sections of the code.

Final Status: House Higher Education Committee hearing canceled, 3/2

HB 420 (West)/HB 935 (Hawley) – Would have eliminated the current TASP exemptions for temporary students, students 55 years of age or older, and students who are citizens of a country other than the United States. Those exemptions would have been replaced with a provision that the TASP statute would not apply to a student who is not enrolled in a certificate or degree program at an institution of higher education.

Final Status: HB 420 - House Higher Education Committee hearing canceled, 3/2
HB 935 - Referred to House Higher Education Committee, 2/9; no hearing

HB 996 (Hilbert) – Would have required the school district in which a student attended high school to reimburse the institution of higher education the student attended for the cost of developmental coursework. The bill specified that higher education institutions were to notify the TEA of the amount owed and the TEA was notify and collect the funds from the high school districts on a time table outlined in the bill, and then reimburse the higher education institutions.

Final Status: Referred to House Public Education Committee, 2/10; no hearing

HB 1060 (Walker)/SB 406 (Lucio) – Would have prohibited the Coordinating Board from requiring students in Board-approved degree programs at proprietary schools to take or pass a test prescribed by the Board under the TASP statute or a similar test before receiving a degree.

Final Status: HB 1060 - Referred to House Higher Education Committee, 2/10; no hearing
SB 406 - Passed Senate, 3/23; House Higher Education Committee hearing, 4/20; left pending

HB 2591 (Rangel/West) – Would have required each higher education institution to file a plan for developmental education with the Coordinating Board (the CB would have been required to approve the plans). A student would not have had to be tested until enrolling in a course included in the core curriculum. The institution's plan could not have prohibited students from enrolling in any core curriculum courses after a student's first semester.

The bill would have required the Board to prescribe more than one test for assessment of basic skills in reading, math and writing, but would have removed the requirement for consultation with various higher education faculty in choosing the tests. It would have also removed the requirement that a student take the TASP Test following completion of developmental education. It would have substituted the use of any performance measure adopted by an institution. Progressing beyond 60 semester hours would have depended upon either satisfying the institution's plan or having completed the core curriculum with a grade point average of 2.25 or higher.

In addition, the bill would have authorized institutions to charge a fee to cover the cost of testing. It would have eliminated the requirement to report whether or not a student took or

passed a test after completing developmental education and replaced that requirement with a report on completion of the institution's developmental education plan. The “B” or better alternative to meeting the testing requirement would have been eliminated.

For the SAT, ACT, and TAAS score exemptions, the bill would have required the Board to set a passing score on those tests that was equivalent to a 95 percent probability of passing any approved test that the institution might use. The bill would have exempted all students in any type of certificate program, students not enrolled in a degree or certificate program, students who were 35 years of age or older, and students who were active duty members of the armed forces. The bill would have permitted testing fees for high school students to be paid by the governing board or the high school district. The bill would have required the TEA and Coordinating Board to provide students, parents and high schools with information about the assessment and placement requirements of Texas public institutions of higher education.

The Coordinating Board would have been directed to develop accountability measures for developmental education.

The bill also included a provision directing the Board to not impose a stricter assessment standard on degree-granting proprietary schools than the one imposed on community colleges.

Final Status: Passed House, 4/22; reported from Senate Education Committee, 5/13; set on Senate Intent Calendar, 5/26; not considered

HB 2812 (Salinas) – Would have permitted the Educational Productivity Council at UT-Austin to develop a database of information on the performance of students attending public primary and secondary schools, as well as institutions of higher education. The database would have been used to ensure that students who performed below grade level in the core curriculum would be identified so that they could have received appropriate assistance with the goal of reducing the number of students required to enroll in developmental courses or programs. Instructors or administrators could have requested information on their students' performance by written request from the Council.

Final Status: Reported from House Higher Education Committee, 4/26

SB 608 (Fraser) – Would have exempted from TASP requirements students who were not seeking a degree and who were citizens of a country other than the United States or were serving on active duty as a member of the U.S. armed forces.

Final Status: Passed Senate, 3/25; referred to House Higher Education Committee, 3/29; no hearing

SB 1601 (Shapiro) – Would have required the Board to adopt rules to ensure the effectiveness and quality of developmental education programs. Those rules would have had to provide for institutional accountability, promote improvement, and govern determination of whether a student had completed a developmental education program. Also, the Coordinating Board would have been required to develop a separate developmental education funding formula which would have allocated 70 percent of the funding based on the number of students who required developmental education and 30 percent based on the number of students who passed the TASP Test within one year of completing a developmental education program.

Final Status: Senate Higher Education Subcommittee hearing, 4/19; left pending

EDUCATOR PREPARATION

SIGNIFICANT EDUCATOR PREPARATION LEGISLATION THAT DID NOT PASS

HCR 229 (Delisi) – Would have established a Blue Ribbon Task Force to devise comprehensive strategies to recruit, reward and retain teachers, including revising the minimum salary scale and providing financial rewards for teachers who acquired new professional knowledge and skills and who improved student performance. The Task Force would have included members of the House and Senate and appointees of the Governor.

Final Status: Referred to House Public Education Committee, 4/15; no hearing

FACULTY/ADMINISTRATORS

HB 746 (Gallego/West) – Directs the Coordinating Board, not later than November 1 of each year, to report to the Governor and to the presiding officer of each house of the Legislature on compensated service by members of the faculty or professional staff of institutions of higher education as consulting or testifying expert witnesses in suits in which the state is a party during the preceding state fiscal year. The information in the report shall be reported without identifying specific individuals. The report must specify:

(1) the amounts of time spent by the faculty or professional staff members in connection with that service; and

(2) the names, cause numbers, and outcomes of the cases in which that service was rendered, including the amounts of:

(A) any judgments entered against the state;
(B) any prejudgment or postjudgment interest awarded against the state; and
(C) any attorney's fees of another party ordered to be paid by the state.

The Attorney General and the president of each institution of higher education are to collect all necessary data for inclusion in the report. The Coordinating Board is to adopt rules within 90 days of the bill's effective date and shall submit the first report by November 1, 2000.

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

SB 192 (Ogden/Junell) – Places restrictions on the contracts institutions may enter into with administrators who are to be paid in whole or in part from appropriated funds. Before the date the contract is executed, the governing board must determine that the contract is in the best interest of the institution. A contract may not provide for employment for more than three years; allow for severance or other payments on the termination of the contract to exceed an amount equal to the discounted net present cash value of the contract at a market interest rate agreed on in the contract; allow for development leave that is inconsistent with state statute; or award tenure in any way that varies from the institution's general policy on the award of tenure.

An institution may not pay a salary to a person who is reassigned from an administrative position to a faculty or other position that exceeds the salary of other persons with similar qualifications performing similar duties. An institution must require an administrator who receives development leave to return to work for an amount of time equal to the amount of time the administrator received leave or repay the institution for all the costs of the leave, including the amount of the administrator's salary, if any, paid during the leave.

Any records that pertain to a contract between an institution and an administrator, including terms relating to the money the institution has paid or agreed to pay or the extension of any monetary or other consideration to an administrator in connection with the settlement, compromise, or other resolution of any difference between the institution or governing body and a current or former administrator, is public information and may not be withheld from public disclosure.

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

FINANCIAL AID
[HB 713 is listed in Major Grant Program Section, above]

HB 1689 (Greenberg/Ellis) – Establishes a loan repayment program for early childhood child-care workers.

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

HB 3447 (Swinford/Bivins) – Establishes the Student Endowment Scholarship and Internship Program at general academic institutions for students who demonstrate leadership, financial need, academic achievement, and are involved in an internship program. If a majority of students at an institution approve participation in the program and an associated student fee, the governing board of the university will establish the fee. Optional matching state appropriations for the program at participating institutions may not exceed 50 cents per semester credit hour at an institution, and the revenue from the student fee may not exceed those total revenues (the matching provision was made optional to reduce the fiscal note).

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

HB 3544 (Hodge/Cain) – Establishes a student loan repayment program for dentists who have completed at least one year of dental practice in an area of the state that is underserved in dental care.

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

SB 526 (Luna/Counts) – Provides tuition assistance awards to members of the Texas Army or Air National Guard and the Texas State Guard. The number of State Guard awards is limited to 30. The Adjutant General's Office is responsible for selecting the recipients; the Coordinating Board will reimburse the institutions for the waivers from appropriated funds.

Effective Date *January 1, 2000*

SB 993 (Lindsay/Yarbrough) – Allows the children of disabled firemen and peace officers who are attending an institution and receiving a tuition and fee exemption to transfer their eligibility for the exemption to another institution. The bill repeals language in the code currently stating that the student forfeits the tuition exemption if he/she transfers from the college or university first attended to another institution.

Effective Date *August 30, 1999*

SIGNIFICANT FINANCIAL AID LEGISLATION THAT DID NOT PASS

FINANCIAL AID INCENTIVES FOR TEACHERS

HB 178 (Cuellar) – Would have provided an exemption from or refund of tuition, or tuition and fees, for children of classroom teachers and full-time librarians who were Texas residents.

Final Status: Reported favorably by House Higher Education Committee, 4/13; vote reconsidered, 4/27; left pending

HB 725 (Delisi) – Would have established the Texas Classroom Teachers Scholarship Program, administered by the Texas Education Agency, to provide educational stipends to a classroom teacher seeking an advanced degree in a field related to the classroom teacher's certification as determined by the agency, additional certification in a teaching field experiencing a critical teacher shortage as determined by the commissioner, or national board certification by the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards.

Final Status: House Public Education Committee hearing, 3/15; left pending

HB 878 (Cuellar) – Would have established the Creating Teaching Excellence Scholarship Program for certain public school teachers pursuing master's degrees in areas of critical need for primary and secondary education other than administration or management.

Final Status: Reported favorably by House Higher Education Committee, 4/13; vote reconsidered, 4/27; left pending

HB 1770 (Lewis, Ron)/SB 756 (Duncan) – Would have created the Texas Teaching Fellows Commission, an appointed body that would have established a loan program and loan forgiveness program for high school students who intended to teach in public schools in Texas.

For the loans, the commission would have been directed to establish very stringent standards to ensure that only the most qualified high school seniors received the loans. No more than 2,000 students would have been able to receive these loans at the same time.

In addition, the commission would have been required to form regional review committees to assist in identifying the most qualified high school seniors for the program. The commission and the review committees would have been required to attempt to identify and encourage minority students and students who may not have otherwise considered a career in teaching to enter the program.

Final Status: HB 1770 - House Public Education Committee hearing, 3/15; left pending
SB 756 - referred to Senate Education Committee, 3/2; no hearing

HB 3538 (Luna) – Would have allowed classroom teachers with 10 or more years of classroom experience to be exempted from paying tuition and certain fees for courses required to obtain an additional certification in a field that had an acute teacher shortage.

Final Status: Sent to subcommittee by House Higher Education Committee, 4/6

SB 1449 (West) – Would have established formula funding for the expansion of teacher certification programs or to develop and offer alternative teacher certification programs, would have established the Texas Teacher Conditional Grant program to provide Texas Teacher grants to students who entered a teacher preparation program at an eligible institution and agreed to teach in Texas public schools, and would have also established the Texas Teacher Student Loan Repayment Program.

Final Status: Senate Higher Education Subcommittee hearing, 4/19; left pending

OTHER GRANTS AND SCHOLARSHIPS

HB 3162 (Glaze) – Would have created the Texas Community and Technical College Scholars Program, a financial aid program for Texas private or public high school graduates who enrolled full- or part-time in a Texas public community or technical college, had not received a baccalaureate degree, had a cumulative GPA of at least a 78 on a scale of 100, and had applied for financial aid.

Final Status: Referred to House Higher Education Committee, 3/16; no hearing

HB 3583 (Jones, Jesse)/SB 1535 (West) – Would have created the Texas Rising Star Scholarship Program for Texas public high school graduates who had a 2.5 GPA, met financial need requirements, enrolled at least half-time in a public community or technical college, and had not received a baccalaureate degree.

Final Status: HB 3583 – Voted from House Higher Education Committee, 4/20; vote reconsidered, 4/27; left pending
SB 1535 – Passed Senate, 5/25; not heard in House

SB 1702 (Ellis) – Would have provided a scholarship for financially needy law students if they agreed to serve in Texas for five years as a full-time prosecuting attorney, criminal district attorney, county attorney, municipal attorney with responsibility to prosecute criminal cases, or an attorney of record who provided significant representation in a specified number of cases per year in the field of criminal defense for the indigent or civil legal services for the indigent.

Final Status: Senate Higher Education Subcommittee hearing, 4/19; left pending

FUNDING LIMITATIONS

SB 345 (Bivins/Rangel) – Replaces the 170-semester-credit hour per student limitation on state formula funding with a limitation of 45 hours above the minimum number of hours required in a student's degree program. It also changes the statute to apply to students who enter for the first time in the fall of 1999 or later. It eliminates exceptions for two or more baccalaureate degrees, double majors, and health profession degree programs, and would add technical courses to the list of types of courses to which the limitation does not apply.

Effective Date *April 8, 1999*

SIGNIFICANT FUNDING LIMITATION LEGISLATION THAT DID NOT PASS

HB 1882 (Naishtat) – Would have codified the Coordinating Board's interpretation of the 99-hour funding cap on doctoral hours. As passed by the House, the bill also included a grandfather clause providing that the limitation did not apply to a doctoral student who initially enrolled before the 1999 fall semester.

Final Status: Passed House, 5/5; hearing Senate Education Committee, 5/12; left pending

HEALTH-RELATED LEGISLATION

HB 1945 (Junell/Ratliff) – Creates several permanent funds from the tobacco settlement money for use by institutions of higher education. The funds include:

The Permanent Health Fund for Higher Education administered by The University of Texas System which is an endowment fund in the treasury outside the general revenue fund. The investment returns are to be appropriated only for programs that benefit medical research, health education, or treatment programs at the health-related institutions.

Permanent Funds for Health-Related Institutions which establishes separate permanent endowment funds in the treasury outside the general revenue fund for the benefit of the health science centers as well as the regional academic health centers of Texas Tech and the Valley. These are separate funds established for each of the named entities. The governing board of each eligible institution may administer the fund for that institution. If a governing board elects not to administer the fund, the Comptroller will administer it. The investment returns may only be used for research and other programs that benefit public health.

The Permanent Fund for Higher Education Nursing, Allied Health, and Other Health-Related Programs which is a special fund in the treasury outside the general revenue fund. The State Comptroller may contract with the governing board of any institution to administer the fund. The investment returns will be appropriated to the Coordinating Board to provide grants to public institutions of higher education that offer upper-level academic instruction and training in the fields of nursing, allied health, or other health-related education. Institutions that are eligible for money from the other funds are not be eligible for grants from this fund.

The Permanent Fund for Minority Health Research and Education establishes a special fund for grants to institutions, including the Centers for Teacher Education, that conduct research or educational programs addressing minority health issues or that form partnerships with minority organizations, colleges or universities to conduct research and educational programs addressing minority health issues. The State Comptroller may contract with the governing board of any institution to administer the fund. The investment returns will be appropriated to the Coordinating Board to provide the grants.

Effective Date *August 30, 1999*

HB 2025 (Pickett/Shapleigh) – Establishes the Border Health Institute in El Paso. The Institute will assist health-related institutions working in the Texas-Mexico border region to deliver health care, provide health education, and conduct public health research in fields relevant to the border region. The institutions subject to the oversight of the Coordinating Board under Chapter 61 remain subject to that oversight. The Coordinating Board is to prepare an impact statement on the initial implementation of the legislation by January 1, 2000.

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

SB 590 (Truan/Rangel) – Establishes the Texas A&M University System Coastal Bend Health Education Center to provide community-based instructional sites for the education of health care professionals. Public and private health care and educational institutions may participate in the Center's programs to provide undergraduate clinical education, graduate education, and health professional education in areas such as medicine, dentistry, nursing, public health, or other health professions. The Center may operate educational facilities located throughout the Coastal Bend and may also utilize community outreach programs and conduct research in areas of health education provided by the Center and regional public health issues. The Center

is subject to the continuing supervision of the Coordinating Board under Chapter 61. The Coordinating Board is to prepare an educational impact statement on the initial implementation of the act by August 31, 2000.

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

SB 931 (Madla/Van de Putte) – Establishes the Roberta High Memorial Pharmacy Residency Program to support post-pharmacy training for baccalaureate- and PharmD-degreed pharmacists. Preference applies to resident pharmacists interested in going to medically underserved areas of the state, as defined by Texas Department of Health. The Coordinating Board may administer a pharmacy residency funding program to support the compensation of resident pharmacists in an amount not to exceed $10,000 per licensed pharmacy resident.

The Coordinating Board is directed to appoint an advisory committee to advise the board on the development and administration of the pharmacy "residency" program. The bill allows the Coordinating Board to take 10 percent of the appropriated funds for administrative purposes. [No funding was provided in the Appropriations Act to implement this bill.]

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

SB 1288 (Zaffirini/Cuellar) – Authorizes the board of regents of The University of Texas System to establish and operate a University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio campus extension in Laredo. The primary purpose is to support educational activities and may be used to provide undergraduate and graduate medical and dental education and other levels of health education work in collaboration with Texas A&M International and any component of the A&M or UT systems. The extension is subject to the continuing supervision of the Coordinating Board under Chapter 61. The Coordinating Board is to prepare an educational impact statement on the initial implementation of the act by August 31, 2000.

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

SB 1378 (Shapleigh/Rangel) – Directs the Coordinating Board, with the Department of Health, to review the medical training needs in the Texas-Mexico border region. The review is to include a description of the methods in use to provide medical training in the region, as well as an assessment to determine the adequacy of current training methods and a projection of future medical service needs of the region. Additionally, the review must make recommendations for addressing the future medical training needs of the region based upon the assessment portion of the review. The Board must present the report to the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Speaker of the House by January 1, 2001.

Effective Date *August 30, 1999*

SIGNIFICANT HEALTH-RELATED LEGISLATION THAT DID NOT PASS

HB 1653 (Maxey) – Would have required the Governor to appoint a task force to develop a statewide telemedicine plan to increase access to medical care. The task force would have been comprised of 11 members, including a representative of the Coordinating Board and the Board's Family Practice Residency Advisory Committee.

The task force would have been charged with developing guidelines for the Telecommunications Infrastructure Fund Board to award grants for telemedicine projects; recommending a telecommunications infrastructure to build and support telemedicine; defining the role that the medical schools, teaching hospitals, and public health clinics should have in the

telemedicine plan; establishing priorities for funding; making policy recommendations related to the quality of care; and making recommendations on interstate licensing issues.

Final Status: House Public Health Committee hearing, 4/7; left pending

MISCELLANEOUS LEGISLATION

HB 3226 (Capelo/Truan) and SB 1451 (West/Capelo) – Both of these bills direct the Coordinating Board to establish and maintain an Internet site to allow institutions of higher education to provide notice to school districts of any available surplus or salvage property. The Board shall operate the site to allow a school district to make a direct inquiry to an institution regarding the possible acquisition of property by the school district. The Coordinating Board may charge a fee for an institution or school district to use the facility.

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

SB 1026 (Brown/Davis, John) – Permits the University of Houston to establish a cooperative program with one or more school districts under which high school students may be employed by the university to work at the LBJ Space Center. The students could receive high school course credit. In addition, the university may establish a cooperative program with community/junior college districts under which their students may be employed by the university to work at the LBJ Space Center and receive course credit.

The bill also permits the Coordinating Board to establish a cooperative program with universities under which their students could be employed by the board to work at the LBJ Space Center.

The university and the board may use appropriated funds as well as gifts, grants, and donations for the bill's purposes, including students' wages. [The Legislature did not appropriate any funds to implement this bill.]

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

SB 1261 (Bivins/Rangel) – Changes the core curriculum and field of study curricula statute to define "faculty member" to ensure that faculty members serving on core curriculum and field of study advisory committees are primarily teaching faculty rather than administrators. It also requires an institution to consult with its own faculty before nominating or recommending a person to be the institution's representative on a core curriculum advisory committee. The advisory committees must include a majority of faculty members no later than January 1, 2000.

It directs the Coordinating Board to study the need for and feasibility of developing a field of study curriculum in the various fields common to institutions of higher education. The results of the study must be reported to the governing boards of the institutions and the appropriate subcommittee chairs in the Legislature by September 1, 2000.

Effective Date *June 20, 1999*

SB 1841 (Ratliff/Cuellar) – Abolishes the Texas Eminent Scholars Program, a program for which the state has not appropriated matching funds since 1984-1985. The bill states that any restrictions under state law on the use of eligible gifts or the disbursement of income from an eligible gift, including any requirement of the provision of state matching funds from the Eminent Scholars Fund, are waived and abolished, and any requirement of any state action before the eligible gifts may be used or income from the gifts may be disbursed are considered fulfilled. The institutions are required to make a good faith effort to notify donors of the abolishment of

the program and offer to provide more information. If requested, the gift must be returned. Language in HB 1945 (see page 23) allows the health-related institutions to use the earnings from their tobacco settlement funds to match any donations received as a part of the Eminent Scholars Program.

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

SB 1861 (Sibley/Rangel) – Clarifies the definition of a private or independent institution of higher education to specify that only institutions that are accredited by the Commission on Colleges of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools or the Liaison Committee on Medical Education shall be considered private or independent institutions.

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

OTHER SIGNIFICANT LEGISLATION THAT DID NOT PASS

SB 980 (Barrientos/Longoria) – Would have required the Coordinating Board to establish the Multicultural Mathematics and Science Education Cooperative (MMSEC), a statewide program to provide professional development in mathematics and science for elementary school teachers in schools with a preponderance of economically disadvantaged students. The Coordinating Board would have contracted with UT-Austin to operate the program.

Final Status: Passed Senate, 4/27; reported from House Higher Education Committee, 5/6

PRIVATE POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTIONS

SB 502 (Shapleigh/Najera) – Allows a person who used the term "college" in the name of a private postsecondary educational institution established prior to September 1, 1975 to establish a new proprietary school and apply the grandfathering of the term "college" to the new school – if the new school offers the same or similar educational programs as the institution established in the same county before September 1, 1975.

Effective Date *May 29, 1999*

SIGNIFICANT POSTSECONDARY INSTITUTION LEGISLATION THAT DID NOT PASS

HB 1126 (Wohlgemuth) – Would have exempted institutions offering “religious education” from the private postsecondary statute that regulates private, unaccredited degree-granting institutions. The Coordinating Board would have no longer been able to determine whether those institutions such be given degree-granting authority or use the name “college” or “university.”

Final Status: House Higher Education Committee hearing, 3/9; left pending

REPORTING REQUIREMENTS

SB 1853 (Bivins/Rangel) – Requires community colleges to report of the variety of students attending the colleges: degree- and certificate-seeking, students enrolled in workforce continuing education courses, students enrolled in college credit courses who are not seeking a degree or certificate, students seeking transfer credit, and students enrolled in developmental education courses.

Effective Date *August 30, 1999*

RESEARCH

HB 565 (Oliveira/Lucio) – Amends Chapter 61 of the Education Code to direct the Coordinating Board to encourage higher education institutions and other entities using state research and technology funds to apply those funds to environmental issues in the Texas-Mexico border region. The region is defined with a list of specific counties to be included.

Effective Date *May 24, 1999*

SB 210 (Truan/Hinojosa) – Adds "environmental issues affecting the Texas-Mexico border region" to the list of scientific and engineering research areas designated as priorities areas for the Advanced Research Program and the Advanced Technology Program.

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

SIGNIFICANT RESEARCH LEGISLATION THAT DID NOT PASS

HB 2865 (Farrar)/SB 1493 (Duncan) – Would have created the Research University Fund (RUF) to provide excellence funding to eligible Texas public research institutions of higher education to "allow Texas to remain at the forefront of scientific and technological innovations." General academic teaching institutions not eligible to receive funds from the AUF and that had been designated a Carnegie Research University I or II would have been eligible. At least $50 million could have been appropriated annually to the RUF. The State Comptroller would have administered and invested the fund in the same manner as the Permanent University Fund. The provisions of the HEF law establishing an endowment and requiring the appropriation of $50 million per year to the endowment until it reaches $2 billion would have been repealed.

Final Status: HB 2865 - House Higher Education Committee hearing, 3/31; left pending
SB 1493 - Senate Education Committee hearing, 4/12; left pending

ROLE AND MISSION/INSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

INSTITUTIONAL MISSION CHANGES

HB 888 (Gray/Jackson) – Allows Texas A&M University at Galveston to offer graduate degree programs in marine science if the institution's plans to offer graduate instruction have been reviewed and approved by the Coordinating Board.

Effective Date *August 30, 1999*

HB 1049 (Sadler/Ratliff) – Designates Texas State Technical College-Marshall as a campus rather than an extension center in the TSTC System. It gives the Marshall campus access to HEAF funds.

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

HB 1314 (Hochberg/Ellis) – Authorizes The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center to offer courses and degree programs in allied health fields related to the institution's mission in diagnosis, teaching, study, prevention, and treatment of cancer and related diseases. The degree programs have to be approved by the Coordinating Board.

Effective Date *May 17, 1999*

ESTABLISHMENT OF NEW UNIVERSITY SYSTEMS

SB 751 (Sibley/Crownover) – Establishes the University of North Texas System comprised of the University of North Texas and the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth. The bill requires the Coordinating Board to approve the establishment of the system by August 31, 1999 or it does not take effect.

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

SB 1088 (Duncan/Jones, Delwin) – Establishes the Texas Tech University System comprised of Texas Tech University and Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center. The bill requires the Coordinating Board to approve the establishment of the system by August 31, 1999 or it does not take effect.

Effective Date *June 20, 1999*

PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A NEW PUBLIC INSTITUTION

SB 1651 (Jackson/Davis, John) – Establishes Texas Chiropractic College as a public institution of higher education if there is sufficient interest expressed by the college and a particular institution of higher education. The Coordinating Board shall review and *may* approve the transition (it does not require that the Board approve the transition). The bill also specifies that the act only takes effect if a specific appropriation for the implementation of this Act is provided in the Appropriations Act. The Appropriations Act includes $250,000 for FY 2000 in a contingency rider for this bill.

Effective Date *June 20, 1999*

NAME CHANGES

HB 1297 (Lewis/Bernsen) – Changes the name of Lamar University-Port Arthur to Lamar State College-Port Arthur, Lamar University-Orange to Lamar State College-Orange, and Lamar University Institute of Technology to Lamar Institute of Technology. It also creates a definition of “state college” to mean these three institutions.

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

PROPOSED STUDY THAT DID NOT PASS

SCR 78 (West) – Would have established the Special Commission on Twenty-First Century Colleges and Universities to study issues relating to the systems and institutions of higher education in the state, including community and technical colleges; the method and level of funding for various institutions as they pertain to their mission and role; the accessibility and affordability of higher education in the state, including how projected changes in the demographics of the state may impact enrollment capacity, student populations, financial aid programs, and admissions policies; the historic success of institutions in retaining, educating, and graduating students, including the factors that impact retention and graduation rates, and the merit of employing a system of accountability among institutions; and the role of technology in the provision of higher education services throughout the state, including the efficiency of current telecommunications and distance learning network infrastructures, and the role of this medium in providing greater access to higher education services.

Final Status: Passed Senate, 5/26; not heard in House

SIGNIFICANT INSTITUTIONAL LEGISLATION THAT DID NOT PASS

HB 177 (Cuellar) – Would have established a campus of the Texas State Technical College System in Laredo, with the first students enrolled by fall 2000.

Final Status: Referred to House Higher Education Committee, 2/2; no hearing

HB 3336 (McClendon) – Would have established a Texas State Technical College System campus in eastern Bexar County, with the first students to enroll in fall 2000.

Final Status: Referred to House Higher Education Committee, 3/16; no hearing

SB 722 (Luna) – Would have established a Texas State Technical College System high technology training program (i.e., computer manufacturing, software development, information service, telecommunications, biotechnology, petroleum engineering, aerospace industries) to serve Bexar County.

Final Status: Referred to Senate Higher Education Subcommittee, 3/1; no hearing

SB 1859 (Sibley/Solomons) – Would have established the Texas Woman's University System comprised of Texas Woman's University and its components. The Coordinating Board would have been required to approve the establishment of the system by August 31, 1999.

Status: Passed Senate, 5/4; hearing set House Higher Education Committee, 5/11

TECHNOLOGY

SB 231 (Ellis/Dukes) – Directs the Workforce Commission to develop an information and marketing campaign designed to encourage residents of the state to enter the technology workforce. The campaign shall target populations that are traditionally economically disadvantaged and underrepresented in the technology workforce.

Effective Date *June 18, 1999*

SCR 9 (Ellis/Dukes) – Endorses the establishment of the Texas Institute of Science and Technology as an appropriate vehicle for providing leadership in the identification and

promotion of science and technology-based economic opportunities for the state. The endorsement is granted with the understanding that the institute will be wholly privately funded and will not require the allocation of state resources or assets such as facilities or infrastructure, except that the Coordinating Board is authorized to work with the private sector participants in the institute's establishment.

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

TEXAS SOUTHERN UNIVERSITY

SIGNIFICANT TSU LEGISLATION THAT DID NOT PASS

HB 2091 (Wilson) – Would have abolished the board of regents for Texas Southern University and directed the Governor to appoint an interim governing committee. Each member of the interim governing committee would have had to have a legal residence in a different State Board of Education district. The Governor would have been prevented from appointing more than two persons who were currently members of the board of regents A new board of regents for Texas Southern University would have been appointed by February 1, 2003.

Final Status: Referred to House Higher Education Committee, not heard

HB 3525 (Coleman) – Would have established a Millennium Plan for Texas Southern University. It would have directed the Governor to appoint a coordinator to form a transition team to temporarily govern TSU. The coordinator would have appointed a transition team. The team would have had all the powers and duties given by law to the board of regents. The board of regents would have been prohibited from acting until the transition team was abolished.

The transition team would have developed and implemented a plan to address and remedy the problems regarding the governance and operation of the university that were identified in the Comptroller's performance review of the university, and in the State Auditor's report. The transition team would have been authorized to make changes to operational policies and procedures and could have dismissed personnel who had contributed to the fiscal and management problems of the university or, as an alternative, the team could have temporarily relieved management personnel of operational responsibilities and directed that those persons attend management training.

The bill also would have established a Legislative Oversight Committee for Texas Southern University. If the committee had recommended and the governor had agreed, control of the university would have been returned to the board of regents.

Final Status: Laid on the table by the House, 5/5

TUITION AND FEES

HB 2622 (Chavez/Shapleigh) – Permits a governing board of an institution to waive a fee for a student if the board determines that the student is not reasonably able to participate in or use the activity, service, or facility for which the fee is charged. However, the governing board must ensure that a waiver does not result in the institution's inability to service a debt to which revenue from the fee is obligated or to support an activity, service, or facility for which the fee is charged.

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

HB 3138 (Naishtat/Bivins) – Permits an institution to reduce the amount of tuition charged to a student if the institution has a policy to increase the average semester course load of students or to improve the retention and graduation rates of students and the student is making satisfactory progress and is enrolled in at least 15 hours during the term. The reduction may be a fixed dollar amount, a percentage, or any other manner considered appropriate. The amount of the reduction may not exceed the equivalent of three semester hours.

Effective Date *September 1, 1999*

BILLS ESTABLISHING NEW FEES OR INCREASING EXISTING FEES OR TUITION

HB 229 (West/Duncan) – Allows an increase in the student union fees at The University of Texas of the Permian Basin.

Effective Date *April 30, 1999*

HB 1027 (Solomons/Haywood) – Permits Texas Woman's University to levy a student center fee.

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

HB 1488 (Oliveira/Lucio) – Allows The University of Texas at Brownsville to increase the student union building fee.

Effective Date *May 17, 1999*

HB 2181 (Coleman/Ellis) – Authorizes a recreational and wellness facility fee at the University of Houston.

Effective Date *May 24, 1999*

SB 149 (Harris/Goodman) – Permits The University of Texas at Arlington to impose an intercollegiate athletic fee.

Effective Date *June 18, 1999*

SB 332 (Moncrief/Cuellar) -- Authorizes governing boards to charge and collect a fee, not to exceed $1 per semester or summer session, to establish a Washington, D.C. internship financial aid fund. The institution could not impose the fee unless it was approved by a majority vote of the students participating in a general student election held for that purpose.

Effective Date *August 30, 1999*

SB 562 (Duncan/Jones, Delwin) – Permits Texas Tech University to raise its student services fee.

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

SB 746 (Shapleigh/Haggerty) – Allows The University of Texas at El Paso to increase its student union fees.

Effective Date *May 29, 1999*

SB 940 (Armbrister/Green) – Allows Southwest Texas State University to increase its student fees for bus service.

Effective Date *June 18, 1999*

SB 947 (Barrientos/Maxey) – Allows The University of Texas at Austin to increase the student union fee.

Effective Date *August 30, 1999*

SB 979 (Haywood/Farabee) – Allows Midwestern State University to adopt a medical services fee.

Effective Date *May 17, 1999*

SB 1326 (Gallegos/Coleman) – Allows the University of Houston to increase the tuition for optometry students.

Effective Date *May 14, 1999*

SB 1763 (Barrientos/Greenberg) – Requires institutions to prorate student fees based on the length of the term for which the fees are assessed, unless the statute authorizing the fee specifies a reduced fee amount for a particular term. It also allows The University of Texas at Austin to increase its medical services fee and to use the fee to operate the student health center.

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

SB 1765 (Barrientos/Naishtat) – Allows The University of Texas at Austin to establish a aquatics center fee.

Effective Date *June 19, 1999*

SIGNIFICANT TUITION AND FEE LEGISLATION THAT DID NOT PASS

HB 3708 (Rangel) – Would have increased resident undergraduate tuition rates at Texas public universities in $2 per hour increments each fall beginning at $42 per hour in fall 2001 and ending with $50 per hour in fall 2005.

Final Status: House Higher Education Committee hearings, 4/6 and 4/27; left pending