

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
82R30278 JRJ-D

C.S.H.B. 992  
By: Castro (Zaffirini)  
Higher Education  
5/20/2011  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT**

C.S.H.B. 992 seeks to prohibit a general academic teaching institution from counting a dropped class for purposes of the six-course limit if the student drops the class while enrolled at a public junior college and the student transferred to a general academic teaching institution after earning at least 30 semester credit hours or an associate degree. The bill requires institutions of higher education to provide written notice of the limitations on the number of class drops to an undergraduate student before the end of the student's first semester at the institution. The bill also creates an additional exemption as it relates to the 30-hour cap for semester credit hours earned by a student before receiving an associate degree that has previously been awarded to the student.

C.S.H.B. 992 amends current law relating to excess undergraduate credit hours at public institutions of higher education.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

Rulemaking authority previously granted to an institution of higher education is modified in SECTION 1 (Section 51.907, Education Code) of this bill.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 51.907, Education Code, by adding Subsection (g), as follows:

(g) Requires an institution of higher education to provide written notice to each undergraduate student of the provisions of this section before the end of the first semester in which the student is enrolled in the institution. Authorizes the notice required by this subsection to be delivered by electronic mail or other method of written communication, as determined by the institution.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 61.0595(d), Education Code, as follows:

(d) Provides that the following are not counted for purposes of determining whether the student has previously earned the number of semester credit hours specified by Subsection (a):

(1) Makes no change to this subdivision;

(2)-(5) Makes nonsubstantive changes; and

(6) semester credit hours earned by the student before receiving an associate degree that has been previously awarded to the student in excess of the number of semester credit hours required for the completion of that degree.

SECTION 3. Provides that the change in law made by this Act to Section 61.0595, Education Code, applies beginning with the funding recommendations made under Section 61.059, Education Code, for the 2013-2014 academic year.

SECTION 4. Provides that the change in law made by this Act to Section 51.907, Education Code, applies beginning with the fall 2011 semester.

SECTION 5. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2011.