

1-1 By: Hinojosa S.B. No. 1351
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 11, 2015; March 18, 2015, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Higher Education;
1-4 April 22, 2015, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 6,
1-5 Nays 0; April 22, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8			X	
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to transferring to the Texas Workforce Commission certain
1-18 duties of the comptroller related to the Jobs and Education for
1-19 Texans Grant Program.

1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-21 SECTION 1. Section 134.001, Education Code, is amended by
1-22 adding Subdivision (1) to read as follows:

1-23 (1) "Commission" means the Texas Workforce
1-24 Commission.

1-25 SECTION 2. Section 134.002(a), Education Code, is amended
1-26 to read as follows:

1-27 (a) The commission [~~comptroller~~] shall establish and
1-28 administer the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) fund as a
1-29 dedicated account in the general revenue fund.

1-30 SECTION 3. Section 134.003, Education Code, is amended to
1-31 read as follows:

1-32 Sec. 134.003. ADVISORY BOARD. (a) An advisory board of
1-33 education and workforce stakeholders is created to assist the
1-34 commission [~~comptroller~~] in administering this chapter.

1-35 (b) The advisory board is composed of six [~~seven~~] members
1-36 who serve two-year terms and are appointed as follows:

1-37 (1) one member appointed by the governor;

1-38 (2) one member appointed by the lieutenant governor;

1-39 (3) one member appointed by the speaker of the house of
1-40 representatives;

1-41 (4) one member appointed by the Texas Higher Education
1-42 Coordinating Board;

1-43 (5) one member appointed by the commission [~~Texas~~
1-44 ~~Workforce Commission~~]; and

1-45 (6) the chair of the commission [~~one member of the~~
1-46 ~~public appointed by the comptroller, and~~

1-47 [~~(7) the comptroller~~], who serves as the presiding
1-48 officer.

1-49 (c) The advisory board shall meet at least once each
1-50 quarter, or as needed, to review received applications and
1-51 recommend awarding grants under this chapter.

1-52 SECTION 4. Section 134.004(a), Education Code, is amended
1-53 to read as follows:

1-54 (a) The commission [~~comptroller~~] shall establish and
1-55 administer the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program to
1-56 provide grants to public junior colleges and public technical
1-57 institutes that apply to the advisory board in the manner
1-58 prescribed by the advisory board. The commission [~~comptroller~~]
1-59 shall award the grants on the advice and recommendations of the
1-60 advisory board.

1-61 SECTION 5. Sections 134.006(a), (c), and (d), Education

2-1 Code, are amended to read as follows:

2-2 (a) The commission [~~comptroller~~] may award a grant for the
2-3 development of new career and technical education courses or
2-4 programs at public junior colleges and public technical institutes.

2-5 (c) In awarding a grant under this section, the commission
2-6 [~~comptroller~~] shall primarily consider the potential economic
2-7 returns to the state from the development of the career and
2-8 technical education course or program. The commission
2-9 [~~comptroller~~] may also consider whether the course or program:

2-10 (1) is part of a new, emerging industry or high-demand
2-11 occupation;

2-12 (2) offers new or expanded dual credit career and
2-13 technical educational opportunities in public high schools; or

2-14 (3) is provided in cooperation with other public
2-15 junior colleges or public technical institutes across existing
2-16 service areas.

2-17 (d) To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a
2-18 public junior college or public technical institute must provide
2-19 matching funds in accordance with rules adopted under Section
2-20 134.008. The matching funds may be obtained from any source
2-21 available to the junior college or technical institute, including
2-22 [~~in-kind contributions,~~] industry consortia, community or
2-23 foundation grants, individual contributions, and local
2-24 governmental agency operating funds.

2-25 SECTION 6. Section 134.008, Education Code, is amended to
2-26 read as follows:

2-27 Sec. 134.008. RULES. The commission [~~comptroller~~] shall
2-28 adopt rules as necessary for the administration of this chapter.

2-29 SECTION 7. (a) Not later than September 1, 2015:

2-30 (1) the administration of the Jobs and Education for
2-31 Texans Grant Program shall be transferred from the comptroller of
2-32 public accounts to the Texas Workforce Commission;

2-33 (2) all rules, forms, policies, procedures, or
2-34 decisions of the comptroller that are related to the Jobs and
2-35 Education for Texans Grant Program are continued in effect as
2-36 rules, forms, policies, procedures, or decisions of the Texas
2-37 Workforce Commission until superseded by a rule or other
2-38 appropriate act of the Texas Workforce Commission;

2-39 (3) all money, obligations, memoranda of
2-40 understanding, leases, rights, and contracts, including grant
2-41 agreements, of the comptroller related to the Jobs and Education
2-42 for Texans Grant Program are transferred to the Texas Workforce
2-43 Commission, and the Texas Workforce Commission assumes, without a
2-44 change in status, the position of the comptroller in all
2-45 transferred contracts, including grant agreements, related to the
2-46 Jobs and Education for Texans Grant Program;

2-47 (4) records in the custody of the comptroller related
2-48 to the Jobs and Education for Texans Grant Program are transferred
2-49 to and become the property of the Texas Workforce Commission; and

2-50 (5) a reference in law or administrative rule to the
2-51 comptroller relating to the administration of the Jobs and
2-52 Education for Texans Grant Program means the Texas Workforce
2-53 Commission.

2-54 (b) Before the transfer of the administration of the Jobs
2-55 and Education for Texans Grant Program, the comptroller of public
2-56 accounts and the Texas Workforce Commission shall coordinate the
2-57 transfer of powers and duties, including records, appropriations,
2-58 disbursements, compliance audits, monitoring and enforcement, and
2-59 other items, to ensure a smooth transition.

2-60 SECTION 8. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-61 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-62 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-63 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-64 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

2-65 * * * * *