

1-1 By: Wilson (Senate Sponsor - Creighton) H.B. No. 5180  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 6, 2025;  
 1-3 May 7, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Education  
 1-4 K-16; May 15, 2025, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas  
 1-5 11, Nays 0; May 15, 2025, 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	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18	X			

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the issuance of a diploma to a student graduating from a  
 1-22 public institution of higher education that has undergone a merger,  
 1-23 acquisition, or name change.

1-24 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-25 SECTION 1. Subchapter 2, Chapter 51, Education Code, is  
 1-26 amended by adding Section 51.995 to read as follows:

1-27 Sec. 51.995. DIPLOMA DESIGNATION IN EVENT OF MERGER,  
 1-28 ACQUISITION, OR NAME CHANGE. (a) In this section, "institution of  
 1-29 higher education" has the meaning assigned by Section 61.003.

1-30 (b) Subject to Subsection (c), if, during the period of a  
 1-31 student's enrollment at an institution of higher education, the  
 1-32 institution merges with or is acquired by another postsecondary  
 1-33 educational institution or changes the institution's name, the  
 1-34 institution shall provide to the student on the student's  
 1-35 graduation from the institution two diplomas as follows:

1-36 (1) one diploma in the same style, design, or format,  
 1-37 including symbols or other insignia, designating the original name  
 1-38 of the institution on the date the student initially enrolled; and

1-39 (2) one diploma designating the name of the  
 1-40 institution after the merger, acquisition, or name change.

1-41 (c) A student is eligible to receive two diplomas under this  
 1-42 section only if the student graduates from the institution of  
 1-43 higher education within six years of the merger, acquisition, or  
 1-44 name change.

1-45 (d) An institution of higher education may not charge a  
 1-46 student an additional fee to receive a diploma under this section.

1-47 SECTION 2. Section 51.995, Education Code, as added by this  
 1-48 Act, applies beginning with a diploma provided by a public  
 1-49 institution of higher education to a student for the 2025-2026  
 1-50 academic year.

1-51 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
 1-52 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
 1-53 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
 1-54 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
 1-55 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

1-56 \* \* \* \* \*