

1-1 By: Bonnen (Senate Sponsor - Creighton) H.B. No. 5294
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 12, 2025;
 1-3 May 13, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on
 1-4 Education K-16; May 26, 2025, reported adversely, with favorable
 1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 2;
 1-6 May 26, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
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		X		

1-20 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 5294 By: King

1-21 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-22 AN ACT

1-23 relating to medical school admissions, coursework, academic
 1-24 standards, and employment decisions in this state.

1-25 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-26 SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 51, Education Code, is
 1-27 amended by adding Section 51.3095 to read as follows:

1-28 Sec. 51.3095. CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS FOR MEDICAL EDUCATION
 1-29 COURSEWORK AND ACADEMIC STANDARDS REVISIONS. (a) In this section,
 1-30 "medical school" means:

1-31 (1) a medical school as defined by Section 61.501; or

1-32 (2) any other institution of higher education, as
 1-33 defined by Section 61.003, or school, department, or college of
 1-34 such an institution, that awards medical degrees.

1-35 (b) Each medical school shall ensure that at least 50
 1-36 percent of the coursework offered in the curriculum required for a
 1-37 medical degree or certificate assesses a student's performance on
 1-38 the coursework based on the assignment of a letter grade from A to F
 1-39 or a tiered system with at least four designations.

1-40 (c) Except as required to comply with state or federal law,
 1-41 a medical school may not revise its academic standards for the award
 1-42 of a degree or certificate unless the medical school submits to the
 1-43 legislature and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board:

1-44 (1) a copy of the proposed standards;

1-45 (2) a concise general statement of the reasons for the
 1-46 proposed standards; and

1-47 (3) the date on which the proposed standards would
 1-48 become effective.

1-49 SECTION 2. Subchapter W, Chapter 51, Education Code, is
 1-50 amended by adding Section 51.8425 to read as follows:

1-51 Sec. 51.8425. CERTAIN REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO MEDICAL
 1-52 SCHOOL ADMISSION. (a) In this section, "medical school" has the
 1-53 meaning assigned by Section 51.3095.

1-54 (b) In making admissions decisions for a medical degree or
 1-55 certificate program, a medical school shall consider an applicant's
 1-56 performance on a standardized test appropriate for the program that
 1-57 focuses on knowledge of and critical thinking applicable to science
 1-58 and medical practice, except that the applicant's performance on
 1-59 the standardized test may not be used as the sole criterion for
 1-60 consideration of the applicant.

2-1 (c) Except as required to comply with state or federal law,
2-2 a medical school may not revise its academic standards for the
2-3 admission of a student to the medical school or to a degree or
2-4 certificate program unless the medical school submits to the
2-5 legislature and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board:

- 2-6 (1) a copy of the proposed standards;
- 2-7 (2) a concise general statement of the reasons for the
- 2-8 proposed standards; and
- 2-9 (3) the date on which the proposed standards would
- 2-10 become effective.

2-11 SECTION 3. Subchapter 2, Chapter 51, Education Code, is
2-12 amended by adding Section 51.9247 to read as follows:

2-13 Sec. 51.9247. CONSIDERATION OF RACE, SEX, COLOR, ETHNICITY,
2-14 OR NATIONAL ORIGIN IN MEDICAL SCHOOL ADMISSIONS AND EMPLOYMENT
2-15 DECISIONS PROHIBITED. (a) In this section, "medical school" has
2-16 the meaning assigned by Section 51.3095.

2-17 (b) Notwithstanding any other provision of law, a medical
2-18 school may not grant preference on the basis of race, sex, color,
2-19 ethnicity, or national origin to an applicant:

- 2-20 (1) for admission to the medical school or to a degree
- 2-21 or certificate program; or
- 2-22 (2) for employment by the medical school.

2-23 (c) Nothing in this section may be construed as prohibiting
2-24 bona fide qualifications based on sex that are reasonably necessary
2-25 to the normal operation of a medical school.

2-26 SECTION 4. Section 51.3095(b), Education Code, as added by
2-27 this Act, applies only to coursework offered to students who
2-28 initially enroll in a medical school for the 2026 fall semester or a
2-29 subsequent academic term.

2-30 SECTION 5. The changes in law made by this Act to admissions
2-31 at medical schools apply beginning with admissions for the 2026
2-32 fall semester. Admissions for an academic period preceding that
2-33 semester are governed by the law in effect immediately before the
2-34 effective date of this Act, and the former law is continued in
2-35 effect for that purpose.

2-36 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-37 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-38 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-39 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-40 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

2-41 * * * * *