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- 2 relating to the operation, certification, and accountability of
- 3 career schools or colleges.
- 4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
- 5 SECTION 1. Section 61.0904, Education Code, is amended to
- 6 read as follows:
- 7 Sec. 61.0904. REVIEW OF INSTITUTIONAL GROUPINGS. (a) At
- 8 least once every 10 years, the board shall conduct a review of the
- 9 institutional groupings under the board's higher education
- 10 accountability system, including a review of the criteria for and
- 11 definitions assigned to those groupings.
- 12 (b) The board shall include within the board's higher
- 13 education accountability system any career schools and colleges in
- 14 this state that offer degree programs. Regardless of whether the
- 15 board is conducting a periodic review of institutional groupings as
- 16 required by Subsection (a), the board shall determine whether to
- 17 create one or more separate institutional groupings for entities to
- 18 which this subsection applies. In implementing this subsection,
- 19 the board shall:
- 20 (1) consult with affected career schools and colleges
- 21 regarding the imposition of reporting requirements on those
- 22 <u>entities; and</u>
- 23 (2) adopt rules that clearly define the types and
- 24 amounts of information to be reported to the board.

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- 1 (c) In advance of each regular session of the legislature, 2 the board shall report to each standing legislative committee with primary jurisdiction over higher education regarding any entities 3 to which Subsection (b) applies that do not participate in the 4 5 board's higher education accountability system as provided by that 6 subsection. SECTION 2. Subdivisions (1) and (4), Section 132.001, 7 8 Education Code, are amended to read as follows: 9 (1) "Career school or college": 10 (A) means any business enterprise operated for a profit or on a nonprofit basis that maintains a physical place of 11 12 business within this state or solicits business within this state, that is not specifically exempted by this chapter, and: 13 14 (i) [<del>(A)</del>] that offers or maintains a course 15 or courses of instruction or study; or 16 (ii) [(B)] at which place of business such a course or courses of instruction or study are available through 17 classroom instruction or by distance education, or both, to a 18 19 person for the purpose of training or preparing the person for a field of endeavor in a business, trade, technical, or industrial 20 occupation, or for avocational or personal improvement; and 21
- (B) does not include a school or educational
- 23 <u>institution that:</u>
- 24 (i) is physically located in another state;
- 25 (ii) is legally authorized by the state of
- 26 its physical location to offer postsecondary education and award
- 27 degrees;

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- 1 (iii) is accredited by a regional or
- 2 national accrediting organization recognized by the United States
- 3 secretary of education under the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20
- 4 U.S.C. Section 1001 et seq.); and
- 5 (iv) offers in this state only
- 6 postsecondary distance or correspondence programs of instruction.
- 7 (4) "Representative" means a person employed by a
- 8 career school or college[ whether the school or college is located
- 9 within or without this state, | to act as an agent, solicitor,
- 10 broker, or independent contractor to directly procure students for
- 11 the school or college by solicitation within [or without] this
- 12 state at any place.
- SECTION 3. Sections 132.052 and 132.151, Education Code,
- 14 are amended to read as follows:
- 15 Sec. 132.052. APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE OF APPROVAL.
- 16 Every career school or college desiring to operate in this state [or
- 17 do business in this state] shall make written application to the
- 18 commission for a certificate of approval. Such application shall
- 19 be verified, be in such form as may be prescribed by the commission,
- 20 and shall furnish the commission such information as the commission
- 21 may require.
- 22 Sec. 132.151. PROHIBITIONS. A person may not:
- 23 (1) operate a career school or college without a
- 24 certificate of approval issued by the commission;
- 25 (2) solicit prospective students for or on behalf of a
- 26 career school or college without being registered as a
- 27 representative of the career school or college as required by this

- 1 chapter;
- 2 (3) accept contracts or enrollment applications for or
- 3 on behalf of a career school or college from a representative who is
- 4 not bonded as required by this chapter;
- 5 (4) utilize advertising designed to mislead or deceive
- 6 prospective students;
- 7 (5) fail to notify the commission of the closure
- 8 [discontinuance of the operation] of any career school or college
- 9 within 72 hours of cessation of classes and make available accurate
- 10 records as required by this chapter;
- 11 (6) negotiate any promissory instrument received as
- 12 payment of tuition or other charge by a career school or college
- 13 prior to completion of 75 percent of the applicable program,
- 14 provided that prior to such time, the instrument may be transferred
- 15 by assignment to a purchaser who shall be subject to all the
- 16 defenses available against the career school or college named as
- 17 payee; or
- 18 (7) violate any provision of this chapter.
- 19 SECTION 4. Subchapter G, Chapter 132, Education Code, is
- 20 amended by adding Section 132.202 to read as follows:
- 21 Sec. 132.202. REQUIRED POSTING BY CERTAIN SCHOOLS OR
- 22 EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS NOT OPERATING IN THIS STATE. A school or
- 23 educational institution described by Section 132.001(1)(B) shall
- 24 post a conspicuous notice on the home page of its website stating:
- (1) that the career school or college is not regulated
- 26 in Texas under this chapter;
- 27 (2) the name of any regulatory agencies that approve

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- 1 and regulate the school's programs in the state where the school is
- 2 physically located and in which it has legal authorization to
- 3 operate; and
- 4 (3) how to file complaints or make other contact with
- 5 applicable regulatory agencies.
- 6 SECTION 5. Subsection (d), Section 132.059, Education Code,
- 7 is repealed.
- 8 SECTION 6. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to
- 9 a certificate of approval issued, an action filed, or any other
- 10 proceeding commenced under Chapter 132, Education Code, on or after
- 11 the effective date of this Act. A certificate of approval issued,
- 12 an action filed, or any other proceeding commenced before the
- 13 effective date of this Act is covered by the law in effect at the
- 14 time the certificate of approval was issued, the action was filed,
- 15 or the other proceeding was commenced, and the former law is
- 16 continued in effect for that purpose.
- SECTION 7. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

by

April 29, 2011,

Nays 2.\_\_\_

Speaker I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1534 passed the Senate on the following vote: Yeas 29, May 24, 2011, Senate refused to concur in House amendments and requested appointment of Conference Committee; May 25, 2011, House

granted request of the Senate; May 28, 2011, Senate adopted Conference Committee Report by the following vote:

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1534 passed the House, with amendments, on May 23, 2011, by the following vote: Yeas 145, Nays 0, two present not voting; May 25, 2011, House granted request Conference of the Senate for appointment of Committee; May 28, 2011, House adopted Conference Committee Report by the following vote: Yeas 147, Nays O, two present not voting.

Approved:

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE

Secretary of State