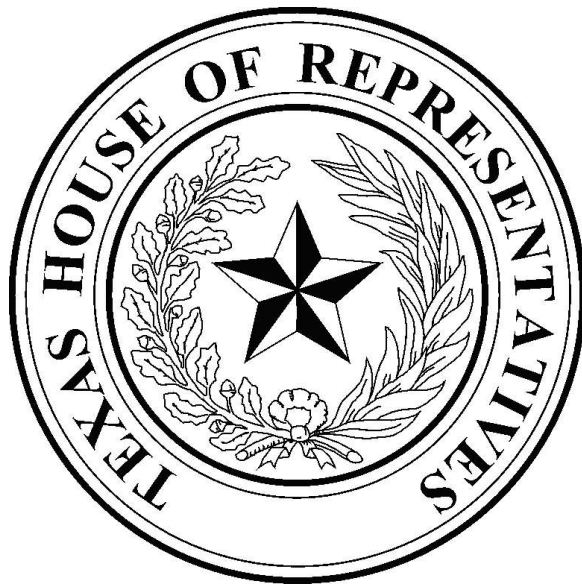


HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS

SUBCOMMITTEE ON  
ARTICLE III



Adopted Riders

March 10, 2015

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Rider #</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Page</b>
1.	TEA: Educator Quality and Leadership	Rodriguez, Justin	5
2.	TEA: Amend Rider, SSI, combination of VanDeaver and Marquez Riders	Márquez VanDeaver	6
3.	TEA: Amend Rider, Teach For America, combine Turner and Howard riders	Turner, Sylvester Howard	7
4.	TEA: Amend Rider, Teach for America, combine Turner and Howard riders part 2	Turner, Sylvester Howard	8
5.	TEA: Amend Rider: Support Texas Military-Connected Children Funding	Howard	9
6.	TEA: New Rider, Performance and Operations of Year- Round Schools	Howard	10
7.	TEA: New Rider, Reporting on Year-Round Schools	Howard	11
8.	TEA: Re-Direct \$2.0M to On Ramps Dual Enrollment	Miller, Doug	12
9.	THECB: New Rider, Feasibility Study for Private Sector College Work Study	Howard	13
10.	THECB: New Rider, Rulemaking Authority for Physician Education Loan Repayment Program	Howard	14

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Rider #</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Page</b>
11.	UT Austin: Add \$1.0M to the Marine Science Institute Funding	Hunter	15
12.	UT San Antonio: Reduce UTSA by \$736K and Add \$736K to UTSA HSC for SALSI	McClendon	16
13.	UT HSC Houston: Replace Rider, Redirect \$5M from UTHHealth to UT Administration Rider	Davis, Sarah	18
14.	UTHSCSA: Amend Rider to reflect correct campuses	Ashby	19
15.	TAMU HSC: Amend Rider, Include Lufkin in List of Physical Locations	Ashby	20
16.	JUCOs: New Rider, Proportional Funds Allocation to Blinn CC Campuses	Raney	21
17.	TTI : New Rider, No \$ Transit System Studies in Certain Municipalities (Grand Prairie and Arlington)	Turner, Chris	22
18.	TAMU Forest Service : Amend Rider, Clarify Ammonium Nitrate Suppression and Reporting Funding	Pickett	23
19.	TAMU Forest Service : New Rider, No \$ to Test Feasibility of Atmospheric Water Extraction Technology	Raney	24

# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>Rider #</b>	<b>Title</b>	<b>Member</b>	<b>Page</b>
20.	Special Provisions Higher Ed: Amend Rider to Include other Institutions for Bilingual Education Rider	Alonzo	25

**Texas Education Agency  
Proposed Funding and Rider  
Educator Quality and Leadership**

Prepared by LBB Staff, 03/10/15

**Required Action**

On page III-16 of the Texas Education Agency bill pattern, amend the following rider:

\_\_\_\_\_. **Educator Quality and Leadership.** From Educator Excellence Funds (General Revenue) appropriated above in Strategy B.3.1, Improving Educator Quality and Leadership, the Commissioner shall expend an amount not to exceed \$16,000,000 in fiscal year 2016 and \$16,000,000 in fiscal year 2017 for the purpose of administering the Educator Excellence Innovation Program in accordance with Texas Education Code Chapter 21, Subchapter O. The Commissioner shall ensure that funds directed by this rider are allocated in a manner that maximizes receipt of federal grant funding for similar purposes.

From amounts referenced in the paragraph above, the Commissioner shall set aside funds for the following purposes:

1. an amount not to exceed \$5,000,000 for the 2016-17 biennium to implement standards on educator quality, including standards related to educator preparation and principal quality;
2. an amount not to exceed \$2,000,000 for the 2016-17 biennium for an educator mentor program in accordance with Texas Education Code, Chapter 21; and
3. an amount not to exceed ~~\$1,000,000~~ 2,000,000 for the 2016-17 biennium for Humanities Texas to support the Teacher Institute program targeting teachers in their first or second year of service in geographic areas with low student achievement on state assessments;

Any unexpended balances as of August 31, 2016 are hereby appropriated to fiscal year 2017 for the same purpose. Contingent on the enactment of legislation by the Eighty-fourth Legislature, Regular Session, 2015, abolishing the Educator Excellence Fund, the appropriations directed by this rider shall be made from the General Revenue Fund instead of the Educator Excellence Fund.

**Overview**

Modify the rider to expressly include Bilingual Education/English as a Second Language programs as an allowable use of funding; require funds be distributed directly to school districts on a formula based on the number of students requiring accelerated instruction; require school districts select programs from a newly developed *Commissioner's List of Approved Evidence-based Programs* targeting the prevention of academic failure; and minimize duplication and increase efficiency between the Student Success Initiative and other similar state-funded reading and mathematics programs.

**Required Action**

(1) On page III-17 of the Texas Education Agency bill pattern, modify the following rider:

46. **Student Success Initiative.** Out of funds appropriated above in Strategy A.2.1, Statewide Educational Programs, the Commissioner shall expend \$15,850,000 in General Revenue in fiscal year 2016 and \$15,850,000 in General Revenue in fiscal year 2017 for the Student Success Initiative. Funds shall be distributed directly to school districts by a formula based on the number of students requiring accelerated instruction. Funds shall be distributed directly to school districts to fund programs targeting the prevention of academic failure from a *Commissioner's List of Approved Evidence-based Programs* designed to target the prevention of academic failure in reading and mathematics, which may include Bilingual Education/English as a Second Language programs.

To the extent possible, the Commissioner shall minimize duplication and maximize efficiency between the supplemental mathematics and reading instruction provided through the Student Success Initiative and other similar state-funded reading and mathematics programs. The commissioner shall ensure that mathematics and reading instruction programs funded by the Act contain diagnostic tools with which the impact and effectiveness of the programs may be assessed.

Any unexpended balances as of August 31, 2016 are hereby appropriated to fiscal year 2017 for the same purpose.

**Texas Education Agency  
Proposed Funding and Rider  
Teach for America**

Prepared by LBB Staff, 03/10/2015

**Overview**

Decrease General Revenue Funds by \$1.5 million (\$500,000 in fiscal year 2016 and \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2017) to the Texas Education Agency for Teach for America and modify the rider to reflect the new funding amounts and to change the number and type of supported personnel.

**Required Action**

- (1) On page III-1 of the Texas Education Agency's bill pattern, decrease General Revenue funding for Strategy B.3.1, Improving Educator Quality/Leadership by \$500,000 in fiscal year 2016 and by \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 17 biennium.
- (2) On page III-18 of the Texas Education Agency bill pattern, modify the following rider:
  50. **Teach for America.** From funds appropriated above in Strategy B.3.1, Improving Educator Quality and Leadership, the Commissioner shall expend ~~\$6,000,000~~ \$5,500,000 in General Revenue in ~~each~~ fiscal year 2016 and \$5,000,000 in General Revenue in fiscal year 2017 ~~of the biennium~~ to support the Teach for America program in Texas.

It is the intent of the Legislature that at least ~~1,000~~ 1,800 Teach for America teachers and public school employees be employed in Texas schools that serve a proportion of economically disadvantaged students that is above the state average.

Funding shall be allocated in such a manner as to prioritize employment of Teach for America teachers in the field of mathematics to the extent practicable.

**Higher Education Coordinating Board  
Proposed Funding and Rider  
Educational Aide Program**

Prepared by LBB Staff, 03/10/2015

**Overview**

The following action would increase funding by \$500,000 in General Revenue in fiscal year 2016 and \$1,000,000 in fiscal year 2017 to the Higher Education Coordinating Board for the Educational Aide Program.

**Required Action**

1. On page III-46 of House Bill 1 – Introduced, within the Higher Education Coordinating Board’s bill pattern, add the following new General Revenue strategy:

	2016	2017
B.X.X Educational Aide Program	\$500,000	\$1,000,000

2. Add the following riders to page III-63.

**Grant Funding for Educational Aide Program.** The Coordinating Board is directed to pursue additional funds for this program from the U.S. Department of Education “Transition to Teaching” grant program and from foundations interested in promoting education and training for current school employees pursuing teacher certification.

**Local Institution Match for Educational Aide Program.** The Coordinating Board is directed to prioritize fund distribution for this program to institutions providing a match of at least 10 percent for each exemption awarded.



**Texas Education Agency**  
**Proposed Rider**  
**Use of Federal Discretionary and Consolidated Administrative Funds**  
Prepared by LBB Staff, March 10, 2015

**Overview**

Amend rider language to specify that up to \$1.0 million in Federal Discretionary and Consolidated Administrative Funds in both fiscal year 2016 and 2017 may be used to support Texas military-connected children.

**Required Action**

(1) On page III-15 of the Texas Education Agency bill pattern, modify the following rider:

38. **Use of Federal Discretionary and Consolidated Administrative Funds.** Except as otherwise directed by this Act, the commissioner may use 50 percent of available federal state-level discretionary and consolidated administrative funds to supplement state funds appropriated for state assessments, providing classroom support including teacher quality initiatives; professional development related to the TEKS; diagnostics, interventions, and targeted support to students needing supplemental remediation; and targeted support for Texas military-connected children.

Subject to the availability of sufficient funding and allowable use restrictions of the respective federal programs, the Commissioner may expend up to \$1,000,000 in each fiscal year of the 2016-17 biennium out of the Federal Discretionary and Consolidated Administrative Funds directed by this rider to support Texas military-connected children. Any unexpended balances as of August 31, 2016 are appropriated to fiscal year 2017 for the same purpose.

The Commissioner may make exceptions to this allocation only upon the prior approval of the Legislative Budget Board and Governor.

By: Howard

**Texas Education Agency**  
**Proposed Rider**  
**Performance and Operations of Year-Round Schools**

Prepared by LBB Staff, March 2, 2015

**Overview**

Add a rider which requires the Texas Education Agency to conduct a study of the performance and operations of year-round schools operating under Education Code §25.084.

**Required Action**

- (1) On page III-22 of the bill pattern for the Texas Education Agency, add the following new rider:

**Performance and Operations of Year-Round Schools.** Out of funds appropriated above, the Texas Education Agency shall conduct an evaluation of the performance and operations of schools operating on a year-round system under Education Code §25.084. The evaluation shall include an assessment of the number of schools operating under the year-round system; compare the performance on state assessment instruments under Education Code §39.023 and the SAT or ACT of students attending schools that operate on a year-round system with the performance of students attending schools that operate on a traditional school year calendar; and examine the manner in which the academic calendars of year-round schools are structured. The agency shall issue a report to the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House, the Legislative Budget Board, and the presiding officers of the standing committees of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over public education about the performance and operations of schools operating on a year-round system no later than January 1, 2017.

**Texas Education Agency**  
**Proposed Rider**  
**Performance and Operations of Year-Round Schools**

Prepared by LBB Staff, March 2, 2015

**Overview**

Add a rider which requires the Texas Education Agency to study and maintain a list of the schools who operate on a year-round system under Education Code §25.084.

**Required Action**

- (1) On page III-22 of the bill pattern for the Texas Education Agency, add the following new rider:

\_\_\_\_\_. **Reporting on Year-Round Schools.** Out of funds appropriated above, the Texas Education Agency shall study and maintain a list of the schools who operate on a year-round system under Education Code §25.084. The agency shall report this information to the Governor, the Lieutenant Governor, the Speaker of the House, the Legislative Budget Board, and the presiding officers of the standing committees of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over public education no later than January 1 of fiscal year 2016 and 2017.

**Overview**

D. Miller

Modify rider to require the Commissioner to use \$2,000,000 in each fiscal year of the 2016-17 biennium to reimburse districts for costs related to students taking On Ramps Dual Enrollment courses.

**Required Action**

(1) On page III-19 of the Texas Education Agency bill pattern, modify the following rider:

58. **Project Share.** From General Revenue funds appropriated above in Strategy A.2.1, Statewide Educational Programs, the Commissioner shall allocate \$9,000,000 in each fiscal year of the 2016-17 biennium to support the development and distribution of online educator and student resources and the secure provisioning, hosting, and/or maintenance of educational resources made available to school districts.

The Commissioner shall set aside \$2,000,000 in each fiscal year of the 2016-17 biennium to reimburse districts for costs related to students taking On Ramps Dual Enrollment courses.

Any unexpended balances as of August 31, 2016 are hereby appropriated to fiscal year 2017 for the same purpose.

By: Howard

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**Higher Education Coordinating Board**  
**Proposed Rider**  
**Texas College Work Study**

Prepared by LBB Staff, 03/01/2015

**Overview**

The following rider would require the Higher Education Coordinating Board, in cooperation with public community colleges, undertake a study to determine the feasibility of offering off-campus Texas College Work-Study placements with private-sector entities.

**Required Action**

1. On page III-63 of the Higher Education Coordinating Board bill pattern, add the following rider.

**Private-Sector Work-Study Partnership Feasibility Study.** Out of funds appropriated above, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall, in cooperation with public community colleges, undertake a study to determine the feasibility of offering off-campus Texas College Work-Study placements with private-sector entities. The study must examine:

- a. Current barriers public community colleges face in partnering with private-sector entities to provide Texas College Work-Study job placements;
- b. If particular industries are better suited to provide Texas College Work-Study placements in accordance with Texas Education Code §56.076;
- c. Best practices relating to partnerships between academic institutions and private-sector entities in regards to apprenticeships, internships, and workforce development;
- d. Identify community colleges that show strong potential for piloting Private-Sector Work-Study Partnerships.

The Higher Education Coordinating Board shall report the results of the study to the House Committee on Higher Education, House Appropriations Committee, Senate Education Committee, Senate Finance Committee, the Governor and the Legislative Budget Board by January 1, 2017.

The funds provided to Strategy D.1.3., Physician Education Loan Repayment Program, are appropriated in accordance with the Texas Education Code, Sections 61.531 - 61.539, for repayment of eligible student loans received by a physician who meets the stipulated requirements. Though physicians in numerous specialties participate, Obstetricians and Gynecologists have difficulty qualifying under the program guidelines, due to their lower number of unduplicated patients compared to other fields. This rider would direct the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, in consultation with the Texas Health and Human Services Commission, to undergo a rulemaking process for the Physician Education Loan Repayment Program which takes into account the unique nature of the practice of Obstetrics and Gynecology. There is a precedent for this, as specialists in Geriatrics and Psychiatry are allowed to qualify for the Repayment Program using lower numbers of unduplicated clients than other fields.

**Required Action:**

1. On page III-63 of the Higher Education Coordinating Board's bill pattern add the following rider:

**62. Physician Education Loan Repayment Program Rulemaking for Obstetrics and Gynecology.** The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, in consultation with the Texas Health & Human Services Commission, is directed to implement any necessary rules for the Physician Education Loan Repayment Program to address the qualifications for the participation of providers in the field of Obstetrics and Gynecology, taking into account the field's lower number of unduplicated clients in comparison to other specialties participating in the program.

Howard

**The University of Texas at Austin  
Proposed Funding and Rider  
Marine Science Institute**

Prepared by LBB Staff, 03/03/2015

**Overview**

The following action would increase funding by \$500,000 in General Revenue in fiscal year 2016 and \$500,000 in fiscal year 2017 to The University of Texas at Austin for the Marine Science Institute.

**Required Action**

1. On page III-73 of House Bill 1 – Introduced, within The University of Texas at Austin’s bill pattern, increase General Revenue to Strategy C.2.1, Marine Science Institute by \$500,000 in fiscal year 2016 and \$500,000 in fiscal year 2017:

	2016	2017
<del>C.2.1 Marine Science Institute</del>	<del>\$2,003,977</del>	<del>\$2,003,977</del>
<u>C.2.1 Marine Science Institute</u>	<u>\$2,503,977</u>	<u>\$2,503,977</u>

2. Add the following rider to page III-76.

**Marine Science Institute.** Out of funds appropriated to The University of Texas at Austin in Strategy C.2.1., Marine Science Institute, \$2,503,977 in General Revenue in each fiscal year shall be used for the Marine Science Institute.

**RIDER REQUEST**

**Member Name:** Representative Ruth Jones McClendon

**Affected Agency:** The University of Texas at San Antonio and the University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio-Life Sciences Institute

**Purpose:** The San Antonio Life Sciences Institute (SALSI) is a joint initiative between The University of Texas at San Antonio and The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio. Authority to create SALSI was given by the 77<sup>th</sup> Legislature. Currently, funding for SALSI is reflected solely in The University of Texas at San Antonio bill pattern.

**This motion would split the appropriation equally between the institutions and provide The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio the same unexpended balance authority within the biennium.**

**Amount Requested (if applicable):** \$ 367,500 per fiscal year

**Method of Finance (if applicable):** General Revenue

**Rider Language:**

On page III-88 of The University of Texas at San Antonio bill pattern, Reduce the General Revenue in strategy C.2.1 Life Science Institute by \$367,500 in FY2016 and \$367,500 in FY 2017.

On page III-171 of The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio bill pattern, add the following new special item strategy and add General Revenue in the following amounts:

	2016	2017
<u>E.3.3 Life Sciences Institute</u>	<u>\$367,500</u>	<u>\$367,500</u>

On page III-174 of The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio bill pattern, add the following new rider:

If you have any questions regarding this form, please contact the House Appropriations Committee Office at (512) 463-1091



**5. Unexpended Balances Between Fiscal Years: San Antonio Life Sciences Institute.** Any unexpended balances as of August 31, 2016, from the appropriations identified in Strategy E.3.3, Life Sciences Institute, are hereby appropriated to The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio for the same purpose for the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2016.

If you have any questions regarding this form, please contact the House Appropriations Committee Office at (512) 463-1091

S Davis

By: \_\_\_\_\_

**University of Texas Health Science Center Houston and UT System Administration  
Transferability of Adult Stem Cell Program Funds**

**Overview**

The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston (UTHealth) and The University of Texas System Administration request the transfer of the Heart Institute – Adult Stem Cell Program General Revenue funding of \$5,000,000 for the biennium from The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston to U.T. System Administration.

This special item was created in the 81<sup>st</sup> Legislature (2009) to provide pass-through funding to the Texas Heart Institute to conduct stem cell research. Recently, U.T. System, rather than UT Health, is the party to the affiliation agreement with the Texas Heart Institute that is the authority for the pass-through funding.

Rider 8 under appropriations to The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston on page III-170 prohibits transfer to the U.T. System of funds appropriated for the Adult Stem Cell Program. The rider provides an exception to the general transferability rules under Special Provisions Relating only to State Agencies of Higher Education. The rider's transfer restriction is inconsistent with the legal relationship between the parties.

**Required Action**

Delete The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston Strategy E.3.4., Heart Institute – Adult Stem Cell Program on page III-167 in HB 1 and move \$2,500,000 in FY 2016 and \$2,500,000 in FY 2017 from Strategy E.3.4. to The University of Texas System Administration budget on page III-66 of HB 1.

Delete rider 8 on page III-170 in The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston budget as follows:

8. Heart Institute –Adult Stem Cell Program. Notwithstanding Article III, Special Provisions Relating Only to State Agencies of Higher Education, Sec. 4 Transfer Provisions of this Act, appropriations made in Strategy E.3.4, Heart Institute – Adult Stem Cell Program shall be used to support the Heart Institute and appropriations shall not be transferred to The University of Texas System Administration.

## **Overview**

Ashby

The following action updates the listing of cities included in the authority for appropriations from Strategy E.1.1., Regional Campus – Laredo, to be used for student travel expenses incurred by students during required rotations. This update would remove the Harlingen and Edinburg campuses and add Laredo.

## **Required Action**

1. On page III-173 of House Bill 1 – Introduced, within The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio’s bill pattern, amend the following rider.

**3. Unexpended Balances Between Fiscal Years: Regional Campus - Laredo.** Any unexpended balances as of August 31, 2016, from the appropriations identified in Strategy E.1.1, Regional Campus - Laredo, are hereby appropriated to The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio for the same purpose for the fiscal year beginning September 1, 2016. Funds expended from appropriations identified in this strategy may be used to cover student travel expenses associated with rotations between the San Antonio, ~~Harlingen and Edinburg~~ and Laredo campuses.

**Texas A&M University Health Science Center**  
**Proposed Funding and Rider**  
**Multiple Locations**

Prepared by LBB Staff, 03/4/2015

**Overview**

The following action would add Lufkin to the list of multiple locations that Texas A&M University Health Science Center is authorized to locate degree programs and qualify for the small class supplement and multi-campus adjustment component of the space projection model.

**Required Action**

1. On page III-186 of House Bill 1 – Introduced, within Texas A&M University Health Science Center’s bill pattern, amend the following rider.

**9. Multiple Locations.** The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center has physical locations and campuses throughout the State of Texas, including Austin, Bryan, College Station, Corpus Christi, Dallas, Houston, Kingsville, McAllen, Round Rock, Lufkin, and Temple. In order to assure maximum efficiency in the use of those facilities and campuses and to provide the greatest availability of academic programs and health related services to the citizens of the State of Texas, the Texas A&M University System Health Science Center is authorized to locate and relocate the various degree programs of its colleges and schools which have been authorized by the board of regents and approved by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, if applicable, at any one or more of its physical locations or campuses. The intent of this section is to recognize individual programs offered at the physical locations and campuses of the Texas A&M University System Health Science Center as qualifying for the small class supplement component of the instruction and operations formula, if the individual program is at a remote site, and the multi-campus adjustment component of the space projection model.

## RIDER REQUEST

**Member Name:** Representative Raney

**Affected Agency:** Blinn College

**Purpose:**

The following rider would require Blinn College to allocate, at a minimum, a proportional share of formula funding appropriations to campuses with enrollment of at least 1,000 students or more based on each campus' proportional share of total contact hours.

**Amount Requested (if applicable):** Fiscally Neutral

**Method of Finance (if applicable):** General Revenue

**Rider Language:**

On page III-207 of the Public Community/Junior Colleges bill pattern, add the following rider:

\_\_\_\_\_. **Appropriations for Blinn College.** Out of funds appropriated above in Strategy F.2.1, Core Operations, Strategy F.2.2, Student Success, and Strategy F.2.3, Contact Hour Funding, Blinn College shall allocate no less than a proportional share of appropriated funds in each fiscal year of the biennium to each campus of Blinn College with an enrollment of 1,000 students or more based on each campus' proportional share of total contact hours.

If you have any questions regarding this form, please contact the House Appropriations Committee Office at (512) 463-1091

## RIDER REQUEST

**Member Name:** Chris Turner

**Affected Agency:** Texas A&M Transportation Institute

**Purpose:** Add a new rider that requires the Texas A&M Transportation Institute to conduct a study concerning Arlington and Grand Prairie transit systems and submit a report with results and recommendations on addressing transit needs no later than December 31, 2016.

**Amount Requested (if applicable):**

**Method of Finance (if applicable):**

**Rider Language:**

### **Required Action**

On page III-225 of the Texas A&M Transportation Institute bill pattern, add the following rider:

**\_\_\_.** **Study of Transit Systems in Certain Municipalities.** Out of funds appropriated to the above, the Texas A&M Transportation Institute shall conduct a study of the Grand Prairie and Arlington transit systems. The study must: identify the needs in the municipalities' transit systems; identify the causes of the needs; identify options to address the needs; suggest improvements to the transit systems; identify the economic benefits of the suggested improvements; identify the demographic and economic makeup of the population most affected by the suggested improvements; identify the geographic areas most affected by the improvements; identify the cost of the improvements and possible sources of funding; and study the merits of the municipalities joining existing/surrounding transit authorities. In addition to using peer research, the study must include community outreach. The Texas A&M Transportation Institute shall submit the study to the legislature no later than December 31, 2016.

If you have any questions regarding this form, please contact the House Appropriations Committee Office at (512) 463-1091

## **RIDER REQUEST**

**Member Name:** Joe Pickett

**Affected Agency:** Texas A&M Forest Service

**Purpose:** Clarify the Legislative intent to include training in suppression of Ammonium Nitrate fires and include a report on expenditures.

**8. Rural Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Program (Wildfire Protection Plan).** Out of the funds appropriated above, \$18,500,000 in fiscal year 2016 and \$18,500,000 in fiscal year 2017 in General Revenue Dedicated Volunteer Fire Department Assistance Account No. 5064 shall be used to assist volunteer fire departments and provide for equipment and training needs, including specific training for handling industrial emergency incidents and response involving ammonium nitrate used as fertilizer, by building their capacity to respond to fires locally. The Texas A&M Forest Service shall submit a report to the Legislature regarding expenditures of all grants under this program, including enrollment numbers and type of training administered through the expenditure of these funds.

## RIDER REQUEST

**Member Name:** Rep. John Raney

**Affected Agency:** Texas Forest Service

**Purpose:** To have the Texas Forest Service study the use of readily available atmospheric water extraction technology, especially in drought stricken regions of Texas, to provide water resources for wildfire fighting operations, and as a source of potable water for All-Hazard Incident responses when local water systems are impacted.

**Amount Requested (if applicable):** N/A

**Method of Finance (if applicable):** Appropriated funds

**Rider Language:** The Texas Forest Service may use funds appropriated above to test the feasibility of available atmospheric water extraction technology as a water source for fire engines and helicopters during wildfire operations, and as a source of potable water for All-Hazard Incident responses when local water systems are impacted.

If you have any questions regarding this form, please contact the House Appropriations Committee Office at (512) 463-1091



**Overview**

The following action increases General Revenue funding for the University of North Texas at Dallas, Texas Woman's University, The University of Texas at Dallas, The University of Texas at Arlington, Texas A&M University – Commerce, and DFW Tech Teach - Texas Tech University by a total of \$2,100,000 for the 2016-17 biennium for certification to teach bilingual education, English as a second language, or Spanish.

**Required Action**

On page III-252 of the Article III, House Bill 1 – Introduced, Eighty-fourth Legislature, Regular Session, Special Provisions Relating Only to State Agencies of Higher Education bill pattern, amend the following rider:

\_\_\_\_\_. **Sec. 45. Program to Encourage Certification to Teach Bilingual Education, English as a Second Language, or Spanish.** Of the funds appropriated by this Act to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, the Coordinating Board may use an amount that is not less than \$150,000 for each year of the 2016-17 biennium to develop and operate a program at the University of North Texas, University of North Texas at Dallas, Texas Woman's University, University of Texas Dallas, University of Texas Arlington, Texas A&M Commerce and DFW Tech Teach - Texas Tech University the University of North Texas at Dallas, in consultation with the university, to provide financial incentives ~~such as in the form of~~ tuition assistance and loan forgiveness, to encourage students who enroll in an educator preparation program at the university to become certified to teach bilingual education, English as a Second Language, or Spanish in school districts with high critical needs.

The program shall make awards to qualified students admitted to the Teacher Education Program in Bilingual Education. Qualified students must: 1) have demonstrated financial need, as determined by the completion of a Free Application for Federal Student Aid form and the Office of Financial Aid and Scholarships; 2) Successfully pass the State Board of Educator Certification Bilingual Target Language Proficiency Test; and 3) Maintain a minimum cumulative 3.0 GPA. The program shall submit a report not later than January 1, 2017 to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board detailing annual information on the following performance measures:

- Student graduation rates from the program;
- Passage rates for the Texas Examination of Education Standards Bilingual Education Supplemental exam and/or the English as a Second Language Supplemental exam; and Graduate employment data at Texas public school districts.