

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
76R14425 KEL-D

C.S.H.B. 1297  
By: Lewis, Ron (Bernsen)  
Higher Education  
5/4/1999  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **DIGEST**

Lamar University at Port Arthur and Lamar University at Orange initially received accreditation as separate institutions in 1988 and were reaccredited in 1993. The current Southern Association of Colleges and Schools accreditation team for Lamar University at Beaumont has tied the changing of the names of these institutions to the reaccreditation of the Beaumont institutions because these institutions are not four-year schools. C.S.H.B. 1297 would change the names of Lamar University at Orange, Lamar University at Port Arthur, and Lamar University Institute of Technology.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, C.S.H.B. 1297 changes the names of Lamar University at Orange, Lamar University at Port Arthur, and Lamar University Institute of Technology.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 96.703, Education Code, as follows:

Sec. 96.703. New heading: LAMAR INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY. Requires the Board of Regents of the State System (board) to establish and maintain an educational center of Lamar University as a separate degree-granting institution to be known as Lamar Institute of Technology. Deletes text regarding university.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 96.704, Education Code, as follows:

Sec. 96.704. New heading: LAMAR STATE COLLEGE--PORT ARTHUR AND LAMAR STATE COLLEGE--ORANGE. Requires the board to establish and maintain coeducational lower-division institutions of higher education as separate accredited degree-granting institutions in the counties of Jefferson and Orange to be known as Lamar State College--Port Arthur and Lamar State College--Orange. Provides that a reference in state law to Lamar University at Port Arthur means Lamar State College--Port Arthur. Provides that a reference in law to Lamar University at Orange means Lamar State College--Orange. Makes conforming changes.

SECTION 3. Amends Sections 54.060(a), (e), and (g), Education Code, to provide that the nonresident tuition fee does not apply to certain nonresident students who register at Lamar State College--Orange, Lamar State College--Port Arthur, rather than a two-year institution in the Lamar University System. Redefines "public technical institute." Make conforming changes.

SECTION 4. Amends Section 55.1724(a), Education Code, to make conforming changes.

SECTION 5. Amends Section 61.003, Education Code, by amending Subdivisions (3), (7) and (8) and by adding Subdivision (16), to redefine "general academic teaching institution" and "public technical institute." Defines "public state college."

SECTION 6. Repealer: Section 54.060(h), Education Code (regarding the governance of a two-year institution in the Lamar University System).

SECTION 7. Emergency clause.

Effective date: upon passage.

### **SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES**

#### SECTION 2.

Amends Section 96.704, Education Code, by adding a new Subsection (f), to provide that a reference in state law to Lamar University at Port Arthur means Lamar State College--Port Arthur. Provides that a reference in law to Lamar University at Orange means Lamar State College--Orange. Makes conforming changes.

#### SECTION 3.

Amends Sections 54.060, Education Code, to delete text regarding Lamar Institute of Technology. Makes conforming changes.

#### SECTION 5.

Deletes proposed changes to Section 62.021(a), Education Code, regarding a formula for funding. Amends Section 61.003, Education Code, by amending Subdivisions (3), (7) and (8) and by adding Subdivision (16), to redefine "general academic teaching institution" and "public technical institute." Defines "public state college."