have used an accreditation survey for the purposes of this section. The accreditation commission's standards must meet or exceed the assisted living facility licensing requirements established by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission as required by Section 247.032(b)(1).

(b) This section expires September 1, 2015.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

Passed by the House on May 2, 2013: Yeas 145, Nays 2, 2 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 20, 2013: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 14, 2013.

Effective September 1, 2013.
CHAPTER 974
H.B. No. 2000

AN ACT
relating to the qualification of certain nonprofit schools and educational institutions for exemption from state laws regulating career schools and colleges and to complaints made against those entities.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Section 132.002, Education Code, is amended by adding Subsections (d-1), (h), (i), (j), and (k) to read as follows:

(d-1) A school or educational institution exempted from this chapter is authorized to offer training in this state allowed by the exemption.

(h) A school or educational institution that participates or intends to participate in student financial aid programs under Title IV, Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. Section 1070 et seq.), may not be exempted from this chapter by the commission on the basis of Subsection (a)(2) unless the school or institution demonstrates to the commission that:

(1) either:

(A) the school or institution is accredited by a regional or national accrediting organization recognized by the United States secretary of education; or

(B) the school or institution, or the primary campus of the school or institution, has been operating continuously in this state for at least 20 years in compliance with state career school regulatory requirements, regardless of the amount of time the current owner has owned the school or institution; or

(2) the school or institution:

(A) is owned, controlled, operated, and maintained by a religious organization lawfully operating as a nonprofit religious corporation; and

(B) awards only degrees or certificates relating to religion, including a certificate of Talmudic studies, an associate of biblical studies degree, a master of divinity degree, or a doctor of divinity degree.

(i) For purposes of Subsection (h)(1)(B), "primary campus" means, for two or more schools or educational institutions that are owned and operated by the same owner, the school or educational institution designated by the owner as the main or principal campus.

(j) A school or educational institution may demonstrate compliance with Subsection (h):

(1) through the application process under Subsection (d); or

(2) if the school or institution has previously been granted an exemption from this chapter and the most recent exemption was granted before June 30, 2013, by an affidavit submitted to the commission by the owner of the school or institution.

(k) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall take appropriate action, including by making appropriate referrals to an accrediting agency or to the attorney general, to address any complaint received by the coordinating board from a student or prospective student of a school or institution to which Subsection (h) applies that is:

(1) exempted from this chapter on the basis of Subsection (a)(2); and

(2) subject to regulation by the coordinating board.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.