CHAPTER 858

H.B. No. 432

AN ACT
relating to charitable contributions by state employees to assist domestic victims of human trafficking.

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

SECTION 1. Section 531.383, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

(f) For purposes of Subchapter I, Chapter 659:

(1) the commission, for the sole purpose of administering the grant program under this section, is considered an eligible charitable organization entitled to participate in the state employee charitable campaign; and

(2) a state employee is entitled to authorize a deduction for contributions to the commission for the purposes of administering the grant program under this section as a charitable contribution under Section 659.132, and the commission may use the contributions as provided by Subsection (a).

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.

Passed by the House on April 24, 2013: Yeas 142, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; passed by the Senate on May 20, 2013: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

Approved June 14, 2013.
Effective June 14, 2013.

CHAPTER 859

H.B. No. 437

AN ACT
relating to career and technical education and workforce development grant programs.

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

SECTION 1. Section 134.004, Education Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 134.004. JOBS AND EDUCATION FOR TEXANS (JET) GRANT PROGRAM. (a) The comptroller shall establish and administer the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program to provide grants to public junior colleges and eligible nonprofit organizations that apply to the advisory board in the manner prescribed by the advisory board. The comptroller shall award the grants on the advice and recommendations of the advisory board.

(b) Grants may be awarded under this chapter from the Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) fund for the following purposes:

[(1) to develop, support, or expand programs of nonprofit organizations that meet the requirements of Section 134.005 and that prepare low-income students for careers in high-demand occupations;

[(2) to defray the start-up costs associated with the development of new career and technical education programs at public junior colleges and public technical institutes that meet the requirements of Section 134.006; and

[(3) to provide scholarships for students in career and technical education programs who meet the requirements of Section 134.007].
SECTION 2. Subtitle G, Title 3, Education Code, is amended by adding Chapter 136 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 136. TEXAS INNOVATIVE ADULT CAREER EDUCATION GRANT PROGRAM

Sec. 136.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:
(1) “Nonprofit organization” means an organization exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(a), Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as an organization described by Section 501(c)(3) of that code.
(2) “Nonprofit workforce intermediary and job training organization” means a non-profit organization that engages in comprehensive long-term job training in partnership with a public junior college, public state college, or public technical institute and provides labor market intermediary services to participant students.
(3) “Program” means the Texas Innovative Adult Career Education (ACE) Grant Program established under Section 136.005.
(4) “Public junior college,” “public state college,” and “public technical institute” have the meanings assigned by Section 61.003.

Sec. 136.002. GRANT ADMINISTRATOR. (a) The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall designate the governing board of a junior college district primarily located in a municipality with a population of 750,000 or more that is primarily located in a county with a population of 1.5 million or less as the grant administrator of the program, including the funds available under Section 136.003.
(b) The grant administrator may participate in the program if the grant administrator is otherwise an eligible organization under Section 136.006.

Sec. 136.003. TEXAS INNOVATIVE ADULT CAREER EDUCATION (ACE) GRANT FUND. (a) The comptroller shall establish the Texas Innovative Adult Career Education (ACE) Grant fund as a dedicated account in the general revenue fund.
(b) The following amounts shall be deposited in the fund:
(1) any amounts appropriated by the legislature for the fund for purposes of this chapter;
(2) interest earned on the investment of money in the fund; and
(3) gifts, grants, and other donations received for the fund.

Sec. 136.004. PROGRAM ADVISORY BOARD. (a) The grant administrator shall establish a program advisory board that provides input and recommendations for the awarding of grants under this chapter.
(b) The program advisory board must be composed of members representing the philanthropic community, the business employer community, and public junior colleges and public technical institutes and must include the mayor of one of the five most populous municipalities in this state. The grant administrator may appoint a nonvoting, ex officio member to the program advisory board. The program advisory board shall elect a chair of the board from among its members.
(c) The program advisory board shall provide oversight to ensure that the grant administrator:
(1) establishes and adheres to an appropriate system that provides acceptable standards for ensuring accountability in the awarding and monitoring of grants;
(2) enters into a written grant agreement or contract with each grantee that establishes clear goals and obligations in unambiguous terms;
(3) acts with due diligence to monitor the implementation of a grant agreement, including carrying out appropriate monitoring activities including reviews at reasonable intervals; and
(4) takes prompt and appropriate corrective action on becoming aware of any evidence of a violation by a grantee of this chapter or of rules adopted under this chapter.
Section 136.005. TEXAS INNOVATIVE ADULT CAREER EDUCATION (ACE) GRANT PROGRAM. (a) The grant administrator shall establish and administer the Texas Innovative Adult Career Education (ACE) Grant Program to provide grants to eligible nonprofit workforce intermediary and job training organizations. In awarding grants under the program, the grant administrator shall take into consideration the recommendations of the program advisory board.

(b) Grants may be awarded under this chapter from the Texas Innovative Adult Career Education (ACE) Grant Fund only to develop, support, or expand programs of eligible nonprofit workforce intermediary and job training organizations to prepare low-income students to enter careers in high-demand and significantly higher-earning occupations.

Section 136.006. ELIGIBLE ORGANIZATIONS. (a) To be eligible for a grant under the program, a nonprofit workforce intermediary and job training organization must:

1. apply to the grant administrator in the manner prescribed by the grant administrator;
2. provide to eligible low-income students, in partnership with public junior colleges, public state colleges, or public technical institutes:
   - job training; and
   - a continuum of services designed to move a program participant from application to employment, including outreach, assessment, case management, support services, and career placement;
3. be governed by a board or other governing structure that includes recognized leaders of broad-based community organizations and executive-level or managerial-level members of the local business community;
4. demonstrate to the satisfaction of the program advisory board that the organization's program has achieved or will achieve the following measures of success among program participants:
   - above-average completion of developmental education among participating public junior college, public state college, or public technical institute students;
   - above-average persistence rates among participating public junior college, public state college, or public technical institute students;
   - above-average certificate or degree completion rates by participating students within a three-year period compared to demographically comparable public junior college, public state college, and public technical institute students; and
   - entry into careers with significantly higher earnings for program participants than previously achieved; and
5. provide matching funds in accordance with rules adopted under this chapter.

(b) The matching funds required under Subsection (a)(5) may be obtained from any source available to the organization, including in-kind contributions, community or foundation grants, individual contributions, and local governmental agency operating funds. The grant administrator may adopt rules requiring an organization to demonstrate compliance with the matching funds requirement before the payment of the next installment under an awarded grant.

Section 136.007. RULES. (a) The grant administrator shall adopt rules as necessary for the administration of this chapter in the manner provided by Chapter 2001, Government Code, for a state agency.

(b) The grant administrator, with recommendations of the program advisory board, shall adopt rules regarding eligibility, program tuition and fees, administrative costs, matching funds, and case management and other supports for the program. The rules may include provisions for the payment in periodic installments of grant awards.

SECTION 3. (a) Sections 134.001(1), 134.005, and 134.007, Education Code, are repealed.
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(b) Subchapter O, Chapter 403, Government Code, is repealed.

SECTION 4. A person receiving a scholarship or other financial assistance under Chapter 134, Education Code, or Subchapter O, Chapter 403, Government Code, before the effective date of this Act for the 2013–2014 academic year may continue to receive a scholarship or other financial assistance under that law as applicable to the person immediately before that date, until the person is no longer eligible for the scholarship or other assistance under Chapter 134, Education Code, or Subchapter O, Chapter 403, Government Code, as the applicable law exists on January 1, 2013, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 5. The Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board shall designate a grant administrator as required by Section 136.002, Education Code, as added by this Act, as soon as possible after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 6. Grants provided under the Texas Innovative Adult Career Education (ACE) Grant Program established under Chapter 138, Education Code, as added by this Act, may benefit only a permanent legal resident or citizen of the United States.

SECTION 7. This Act does not make an appropriation. This Act takes effect regardless of whether a specific appropriation for the implementation of this Act is provided in a general appropriations act of the 83rd Legislature.

SECTION 8. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

Passed by the House on April 4, 2013: Yeas 146, Nays 1, 1 present, not voting; the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 437 on May 24, 2013: Yeas 143, Nays 0, 3 present, not voting; passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 22, 2013: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

Approved June 14, 2013.

Effective September 1, 2013.

CHAPTER 860

H.B. No. 438

AN ACT

relating to the courts authorized to issue an occupational driver's license.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 521.242(a), (b), and (e), Transportation Code, are amended to read as follows:

(a) A person whose license has been suspended for a cause other than a physical or mental disability or impairment or a conviction under Section 49.04, Penal Code, may apply for an occupational license by filing a verified petition with the clerk of a justice, [the] county, [court] or district court with jurisdiction that includes [in] the precinct or county in which:

(1) the person resides; or

(2) the offense occurred for which the license was suspended.

(b) A person may apply for an occupational license by filing a verified petition only with the clerk of the [count] or district court in which the person was convicted if:

(1) the person's license has been automatically suspended or canceled under this chapter for a conviction of an offense under the laws of this state; and

(2) the person has not been issued, in the 10 years preceding the date of the filing of the petition, more than one occupational license after a conviction under the laws of this state.

(e) The clerk of the court shall file the petition as in any other [civil] matter.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to an occupational driver's license that is applied for on or after the effective date of this Act. An occupational driver's