

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
76R10021 BDH-D

C.S.S.B. 724  
By: Zaffirini  
Education  
4/16/1999  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **DIGEST**

Currently, Texas offers certain state statewide programs for teacher continuing education that are targeted at specific groups. C.S.S.B. 724 would authorize the Texas Education Agency to contract with public and private entities for continuing education programs.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, C.S.S.B. 724 provides continuing education courses and programs for public school educators.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

Rulemaking authority is granted to the Texas Education Coordinating Board in SECTION 2 (Section 61.051(s), Education Code) of this bill.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 21B, Education Code, to add Section 21.0541, as follows:

Sec. 21.0541. CONTRACTS FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION. Authorizes a regional education service center to contract with a public or private entity, including an entity that receives funds from the National Endowment for the Humanities under U.S.C. Section 956, for the provision of continuing education courses and programs that fulfill educators' continuing education requirements. Requires a continuing education course or program provided under this section to take certain action. Requires an entity seeking a contract with the agency under Subsection (a) to demonstrate to the Texas Education Agency (agency) a history of providing courses and programs that meet the requirements of this section.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 61.051, Education Code, by adding Subsection (s), to require the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to adopt rules that require institutions of higher education to give credit as higher education course work to a continuing education course or program provided under Section 21.0541.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

SECTION 4. Emergency clause.

### **SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES**

SECTION 1.

Amends Section 21.0541, Education Code, to authorize a regional education service center, rather than the agency, to contract with public or private entities. Deletes text requiring the agency to enter into certain agreements with institutions of higher education.