

CHAPTER 872

H.B. No. 435

An Act relating to memberships in associations and organizations of students in institutions of higher education.

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

**SECTION 1.** Section 11.31, Education Code, is amended by redesignating the current Subsection (i) as Subsection (j) and adding a new Subsection (i) to read as follows:

*(i)(1) The State Board of Education, with the advice and assistance of the state commissioner of education, shall establish rules:*

*(A) prohibiting the abridgement of the right of any higher education student to join any association or organization, or to refuse to join any association or organization; and*

*(B) prohibiting the board of regents of any public institution of higher education, and any of its officers, faculty, or other employees, from directly or indirectly requiring, in the teacher preparation program, as a condition of enrollment, graduation, or for any other reason, or coercing, any student enrolled, or applying for enrollment, to join, already possess membership in, or indicate intent to join, any particular association or organization.*

*(2) It shall be the responsibility of the State Board of Education to enforce the provisions of this section.*

*(3) It shall be the responsibility of the State Board of Education to notify every accredited institution of higher education, or accredited department within any unaccredited institution of higher education, of the provisions of this section.*

(j) [(\*)] The State Board of Education, with the advice and assistance of the state commissioner of education, is hereby authorized to establish such rules and regulations as are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section and which may be necessary to implement and carry out the legislative policy expressed herein.

**SECTION 2.** The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed by the House on May 14, 1985, by a non-record vote; passed by the Senate on May 24, 1985, by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 0.

Filed: June 15, 1985, without signature.

Effective: August 26, 1985