



## BRANDON CREIGHTON

STATE SENATOR  
DISTRICT 4

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### **Creighton Files Higher Education Reform Legislation: Reigning in Faculty Senates, Increasing Transparency, and Establishing the Office of Excellence in Higher Education**

Austin, Texas— Today, Senator Brandon Creighton filed SB 37, creating urgent reforms to Texas public colleges and universities. He offered the following statement:

“Texas colleges and universities are among the best in the nation, producing world-class graduates, groundbreaking research, and innovations that fuel our economy. To maintain this distinction in a rapidly evolving global market, institutions must stay focused on degrees of value, academic excellence, and research with real-world impact. Achieving this requires accountability, and efficiency—ensuring students receive a high-quality education while safeguarding taxpayer investments.

“SB 37 strengthens university governance by enhancing oversight, ensuring institutions operate with integrity, fairness, and a commitment to student success. The legislation eliminates obsolete academic minors and certificate programs, aligns core curriculum with students’ career paths, and increases transparency in faculty senates. Faculty senates will now be required to stream meetings, publicly post agendas, and record all votes on key policies, ensuring greater accountability in decision-making.

“By reaffirming the authority of the Board of Regents, SB 37 clearly defines university governance roles while increasing transparency in policies, hiring, curriculum, and financial decisions. The bill also establishes General Education Review Committees at each institution, composed of industry leaders and faculty, to review and refine core curriculum courses—ensuring they are foundational, practical, and free from ideological bias. Additionally, low-performing minors and certificate programs will undergo regular evaluation, with regents having the authority to phase out programs that fail to attract students, improving efficiency and cost-effectiveness.

“To further protect the integrity of Texas higher education, SB 37 creates the Office of Excellence in Higher Education, a watchdog agency tasked with investigating non-compliance with state law, transparency requirements, and university policies. Reporting directly to the Governor and the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, this office will ensure swift action to prevent mismanagement and lack of compliance.

“Strong oversight is essential to keeping Texas universities at the forefront of education and innovation. With taxpayer dollars and students’ futures at stake, universities must operate with accountability. SB 37 ensures that our institutions remain focused on their core mission—educating students, driving innovation, and securing Texas’ place as a national leader in higher education.”

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