

**89TH TEXAS LEGISLATIVE SESSION** 

## HB 2081 – Rep. Bucy III SB 1679 – Sen. Menéndez



## **Building Better Futures Program for Students with IDD**

HB 2081 proposes establishing the Building Better Futures Program to fund Comprehensive Transition and Postsecondary (CTP) programs for students with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) at Texas colleges and universities. These programs would offer educational, vocational, and support services in an inclusive, age-appropriate setting. The bill also outlines eligibility criteria for both higher education institutions and participating students.



- 72% of program graduates obtain a job within two years of completion.
- 91% of program participants are satisfied with their social life.
- 52% of attending students are gainfully employed during their time in the program.

## <u>Inclusive Higher Education Spotlight:</u> Aggie Achieve Program | Texas A&M

The Aggie ACHIEVE program at Texas A&M University exemplifies the inclusive higher education programs HB 2081 seeks to support.

Established in 2014, it provides students with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD) the opportunity to attend college, take classes, and gain work experience in an inclusive setting. The program emphasizes independent living and employment skills, offering personalized support such as mentoring and job coaching. If passed, SB 1679 would fund similar programs at additional institutions, expanding access to higher education and career opportunities for students with IDD across Texas.

"My son has matured, he's become more articulate, very opinionated, very confident in himself and how he presents himself. And he's been opened up to a lot more opportunities." – Deborah Carrizal, Parent of an Aggie Achieve Graduate

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The Arc of Texas advocates for people with intellectual and developmental disabilities (IDD).