By: Thompson of Harris

H.B. No. 15

## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1	AN ACT
2	relating to the creation of the Brain Institute of Texas; granting
3	authority to issue bonds.
4	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
5	SECTION 1. Subtitle E, Title 2, Health and Safety Code, is
6	amended by adding Chapter 106 to read as follows:
7	CHAPTER 106. BRAIN INSTITUTE OF TEXAS
8	SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS
9	Sec. 106.0001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:
10	(1) "Higher education advisory committee" means the
11	Brain Institute of Texas Higher Education Advisory Committee.
12	(2) "Institute" means the Brain Institute of Texas.
13	(3) "Oversight committee" means the Brain Institute of
14	Texas Oversight Committee.
15	(4) "Research committee" means the Brain Institute of
16	Texas Research Committee.
17	(5) "Research plan" means the Texas Brain Research
18	Plan developed by the institute.
19	Sec. 106.0002. PURPOSES. The Brain Institute of Texas is
20	<pre>established to:</pre>
21	(1) create and expedite innovation in brain research
22	to improve the health of residents of this state, enhance the
23	potential for a medical or scientific breakthrough in brain-related
24	sciences and biomedical research, and enhance the brain research

1	superiority of this state;				
2	(2) attract, create, or expand research capabilities				
3	of eligible institutions of higher education by awarding grants to				
4	the institutions to promote a substantial increase in brain				
5	research, strategies for prevention of brain-related diseases, an				
6	the creation of jobs in this state; and				
7	(3) develop and implement a research plan to foster				
8	synergistic collaboration and investigation into brain research by				
9	eligible institutions of higher education and their partners.				
10	Sec. 106.0003. SUNSET PROVISION. The Brain Institute of				
11	Texas is subject to Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset				
12	Act). Unless continued in existence as provided by that chapter,				
13	the institute is abolished and this chapter expires September 1,				
14	<u>2031.</u>				
15	SUBCHAPTER B. POWERS AND DUTIES OF INSTITUTE				
16	Sec. 106.0051. POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) The institute:				
17	(1) may make grants to eligible institutions of higher				
18	education to further the purposes of this chapter, including:				
19	(A) implementing the research plan;				
20	(B) researching:				
21	(i) the causes of and prevention,				
22	treatment, rehabilitation, and cures for brain-related diseases,				
23	syndromes, disorders, dysfunction, injuries, developmental issues,				
24	mental and behavioral health issues, and substance abuse disorders				
25	and other addictions; and				
26	(ii) any other area impacting the brain,				
27	including an area that directly or indirectly impacts or is				

- 1 impacted by the brain or brain health, such as the gut microbiome,
- 2 nutrition, and the spinal cord or nervous system, that the research
- 3 committee and the oversight committee approve;
- 4 (C) providing money for facilities, equipment,
- 5 supplies, salaries, benefits, and other costs related to brain
- 6 <u>research;</u>
- 7 (D) creating a statewide research and clinical
- 8 data registry for brain research; and
- 9 (E) establishing prevention programs and
- 10 strategies to mitigate the incidence of detrimental health impacts
- 11 on the brain;
- 12 (2) may support eligible institutions of higher
- 13 education by awarding grants to those institutions and their
- 14 collaborative partners for discovering the causes of and developing
- 15 cures for all types of brain and neurological health issues;
- 16 (3) shall collaborate with relevant state agencies,
- 17 coordinating councils, and consortiums to enhance brain-related
- 18 health care and research;
- 19 (4) may establish appropriate standards and oversight
- 20 bodies to ensure money authorized under this chapter is properly
- 21 used for the purposes of this chapter;
- (5) may employ necessary staff to provide
- 23 administrative support to the institute;
- 24 (6) shall monitor grant contracts and agreements
- 25 <u>authorized under this chapter to ensure each grant recipient</u>
- 26 complies with the terms and conditions of the contract or
- 27 agreement; and

- 1 (7) shall establish procedures to document that the
- 2 institute, its employees, and any committee members appointed under
- 3 this chapter comply with all rules governing conflicts of interest
- 4 and the peer review process developed under Section 106.0252.
- 5 (b) The institute shall implement and monitor the research
- 6 plan and revise the plan as necessary.
- 7 Sec. 106.0052. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER; CHIEF COMPLIANCE
- 8 OFFICER; ADDITIONAL OFFICERS. (a) The oversight committee shall
- 9 hire a chief executive officer. The chief executive officer shall
- 10 perform the duties required under this chapter or designated by the
- 11 oversight committee. The chief executive officer must have a
- 12 demonstrated ability to lead and develop academic, commercial, and
- 13 governmental partnerships and coalitions.
- 14 (b) The institute shall employ a chief compliance officer to
- 15 monitor compliance with this chapter and rules adopted under this
- 16 chapter and report incidents of noncompliance to the oversight
- 17 committee. The chief compliance officer shall:
- 18 (1) ensure that all grant proposals comply with this
- 19 chapter and rules adopted under this chapter before the proposals
- 20 are submitted to the oversight committee for consideration and
- 21 approval; and
- 22 (2) attend and observe research committee meetings to
- 23 ensure compliance with this chapter and rules adopted under this
- 24 chapter.
- 25 (c) The chief executive officer may hire any other officer
- 26 position the chief executive officer determines necessary for
- 27 efficient operation of the institute.

- 1 Sec. 106.0053. ANNUAL REPORT; INTERNET POSTING. Not later
- 2 than January 31 of each year, the institute shall prepare and submit
- 3 to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house
- 4 of representatives, and each standing committee of the legislature
- 5 having primary jurisdiction over institute matters and post on the
- 6 institute's Internet website a written report that outlines:
- 7 (1) the institute's activities under this chapter;
- 8 (2) a list of grant recipients during the preceding
- 9 state fiscal year, including the grant amount awarded to each
- 10 recipient;
- 11 (3) any research accomplishments made during the
- 12 preceding state fiscal year by a grant recipient or the recipient's
- 13 partners;
- 14 (4) an overview summary of the institute's financial
- 15 records and strategies; and
- 16 (5) the institute's future direction.
- 17 Sec. 106.0054. INDEPENDENT FINANCIAL AUDIT FOR REVIEW BY
- 18 COMPTROLLER. (a) The institute shall annually commission an
- 19 independent financial audit of its activities from a certified
- 20 public accounting firm. The institute shall provide the audit to
- 21 the comptroller.
- 22 (b) The comptroller shall:
- 23 (1) review and evaluate the audit and annually issue a
- 24 public report of that review; and
- 25 (2) make recommendations concerning the institute's
- 26 financial practices and performance.
- Sec. 106.0055. GRANT RECORDS. (a) The institute shall

1 maintain complete records of: 2 (1) the review of each grant application submitted to the institute, including the score assigned to each grant 3 application reviewed, regardless of whether the grant application 4 5 is not funded by the institute or is withdrawn after submission to the institute; 6 7 (2) each grant recipient's financial reports; 8 (3) each grant recipient's progress reports; and 9 (4) the institute's review of the grant recipient's 10 financial and progress reports. (b) The institute shall keep the records described by 11 12 Subsection (a) for at least 15 years. Sec. 106.0056. GIFTS AND GRANTS. The institute may solicit 13 14 and accept gifts and grants from any source for the purposes of this 15 chapter. 16 SUBCHAPTER C. OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE 17 Sec. 106.0101. COMPOSITION OF OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE. (a) The oversight committee is the governing body of the institute. 18 19 (b) The oversight committee is composed of the following nine members: 20 21 (1) three members appointed by the governor; 2.2 (2) three members appointed by the lieutenant 23 governor; and

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members serve at the pleasure of the appointing authority for

(3) three members appointed by the speaker of the

Sec. 106.0102. TERMS; VACANCY. (a) Oversight committee

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house of representatives.

- 1 staggered six-year terms, with the terms of three members expiring
- 2 January 31 of each even-numbered year.
- 3 (b) If a vacancy occurs on the oversight committee, the
- 4 appropriate appointing authority shall appoint a successor in the
- 5 same manner as the original appointment to serve for the remainder
- 6 of the unexpired term. The appropriate appointing authority shall
- 7 appoint the successor not later than the 30th day after the date the
- 8 vacancy occurs.
- 9 Sec. 106.0103. OFFICERS. (a) The oversight committee
- 10 shall elect a presiding officer and assistant presiding officer
- 11 from among its members every two years. The oversight committee may
- 12 elect additional officers from among its members.
- 13 (b) The presiding officer and assistant presiding officer
- 14 may not serve in the position to which the officer was elected for
- 15 two consecutive terms.
- 16 <u>(c) The oversight committee shall:</u>
- 17 (1) establish and approve duties and responsibilities
- 18 for officers of the committee; and
- 19 (2) develop and implement policies that distinguish
- 20 the responsibilities of the oversight committee and the committee's
- 21 officers from the responsibilities of the chief executive officer
- 22 and institute employees.
- Sec. 106.0104. EXPENSES. A member of the oversight
- 24 committee is not entitled to compensation but is entitled to
- 25 reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in
- 26 attending meetings of the committee or performing other official
- 27 duties authorized by the presiding officer.

- 1 Sec. 106.0105. CONFLICT OF INTEREST. The oversight
- 2 committee shall adopt conflict-of-interest rules, based on
- 3 standards adopted by the National Institutes of Health, to govern
- 4 members of the oversight committee, members of the research
- 5 committee, and institute employees.
- 6 Sec. 106.0106. RULEMAKING AUTHORITY. The oversight
- 7 committee may adopt rules to administer this chapter.
- 8 Sec. 106.0107. POWERS AND DUTIES. The oversight committee
- 9 shall:
- 10 (1) hire a chief executive officer;
- 11 (2) annually set priorities as prescribed by the
- 12 legislature for each grant project that receives money under this
- 13 chapter; and
- 14 (3) consider the priorities set under Subdivision (2)
- 15 in awarding grants under this chapter.
- Sec. 106.0108. CODE OF CONDUCT. The oversight committee
- 17 shall adopt a code of conduct applicable to each member of the
- 18 oversight committee, member of the research committee, and
- 19 institute employee.
- Sec. 106.0109. FINANCIAL STATEMENT REQUIRED. Each member
- 21 of the oversight committee shall file with the chief compliance
- 22 <u>officer a verified financial statement complying with Sections</u>
- 23 <u>572.022</u> through <u>572.0252</u>, Government Code, as required of a state
- 24 officer by Section 572.021, Government Code.
- 25 SUBCHAPTER D. OTHER INSTITUTE COMMITTEES
- Sec. 106.0151. RESEARCH COMMITTEE. (a) The oversight
- 27 committee shall establish the research committee. The chief

- 1 executive officer, with approval by a simple majority of the
- 2 members of the oversight committee, shall appoint as members of the
- 3 research committee experts in fields related to the brain,
- 4 including research, health care, disease treatment and prevention,
- 5 and other study areas.
- 6 (b) The oversight committee shall adopt a written policy on
- 7 <u>in-state or out-of-state residency requirements for research</u>
- 8 committee members.
- 9 (c) A research committee member may receive an honorarium.
- 10 Subchapter B, Chapter 2254, Government Code, does not apply to an
- 11 honorarium the member receives under this chapter.
- 12 Sec. 106.0152. HIGHER EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE. (a)
- 13 The higher education advisory committee is composed of the
- 14 following members:
- (1) one member appointed by the president of Baylor
- 16 College of Medicine;
- 17 (2) one member appointed by the president of Texas A&M
- 18 University Health Science Center;
- 19 (3) one member appointed by the president of Texas
- 20 Tech University Health Sciences Center;
- 21 (4) one member appointed by the president of Texas
- 22 Tech University Health Sciences Center at El Paso;
- (5) one member appointed by the president of The
- 24 University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center;
- 25 (6) one member appointed by the president of The
- 26 University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston;
- 27 (7) one member appointed by the president of The

- 1 University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston;
- 2 (8) one member appointed by the president of The
- 3 University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio;
- 4 (9) one member appointed by the president of The
- 5 University of Texas Health Science Center at Tyler;
- 6 (10) one member appointed by the dean of Dell Medical
- 7 School at The University of Texas at Austin;
- 8 (11) one member appointed by the president of The
- 9 University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center;
- 10 (12) one member appointed by the dean of The
- 11 University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine;
- 12 (13) one member appointed by the president of
- 13 University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth;
- 14 (14) one member appointed by the dean of University of
- 15 Houston College of Medicine; and
- 16 (15) one member appointed by the dean of Sam Houston
- 17 State University College of Osteopathic Medicine.
- (b) The higher education advisory committee shall advise
- 19 the oversight committee and the research committee on issues,
- 20 opportunities, the role of higher education, and other subjects
- 21 <u>involving brain research.</u>
- Sec. 106.0153. AD HOC ADVISORY COMMITTEE. The chief
- 23 executive officer with majority approval of the oversight
- 24 committee, as necessary, may create additional ad hoc advisory
- 25 committees of experts to advise the oversight committee and the
- 26 research committee on issues relating to brain research.

1	SUBCHAPTER E. FUNDING
2	Sec. 106.0201. BRAIN INSTITUTE OF TEXAS RESEARCH FUND. (a)
3	The Brain Institute of Texas research fund is a dedicated account in
4	the general revenue fund.
5	(b) The Brain Institute of Texas research fund consists of:
6	(1) proceeds of general obligation bonds issued for
7	purposes of the fund;
8	(2) appropriations of money to the fund by the
9	<u>legislature;</u>
10	(3) gifts and grants, including grants from the
11	federal government, received for the fund; and
12	(4) interest, dividends, and other income of the fund.
13	(c) The fund may only be used for:
14	(1) awarding grants authorized under this chapter,
15	including grants for brain research and for research facilities in
16	this state to conduct brain research;
17	(2) the purchase, subject to approval by the oversight
18	committee, of research facilities by or for a grant recipient; and
19	(3) the operation of the institute.
20	Sec. 106.0202. ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS. (a)
21	The institute may request the Texas Public Finance Authority to
22	issue and sell general obligation bonds of the state as authorized
23	by Section 68, Article III, Texas Constitution.
24	(b) The Texas Public Finance Authority may not issue and
25	sell general obligation bonds authorized by this section before
26	January 1, 2022, and may not issue and sell more than \$500 million
27	in general obligation bonds authorized by this section in a state

- 1 fiscal year.
- 2 (c) The institute shall determine, and include in its
- 3 request for issuing bonds, the amount, exclusive of costs of
- 4 issuance, of the bonds to be issued and the preferred time for
- 5 issuing the bonds.
- 6 (d) The Texas Public Finance Authority shall issue the bonds
- 7 <u>in accordance with and subject to Chapter 1232, Government Code,</u>
- 8 and Texas Public Finance Authority rules. The bonds may be issued in
- 9 installments.
- 10 (e) Proceeds of the bonds issued under this section shall be
- 11 deposited to the credit of the Brain Institute of Texas research
- 12 fund and used only for the purposes authorized under Section
- 13 106.0201.
- 14 Sec. 106.0203. AUTHORIZED USE OF GRANT MONEY. (a) A grant
- 15 recipient awarded money from the Brain Institute of Texas research
- 16 fund established under Section 106.0201 may use the money for
- 17 research consistent with the purposes of this chapter and in
- 18 accordance with a contract between the grant recipient and the
- 19 institute.
- 20 (b) Money awarded under this chapter may be used for
- 21 authorized expenses, including honoraria, salaries and benefits,
- 22 travel, conference fees and expenses, consumable supplies, other
- 23 operating expenses, contracted research and development, capital
- 24 equipment, and construction or renovation of state or private
- 25 facilities.
- 26 SUBCHAPTER F. PROCEDURE FOR AWARDING GRANTS
- Sec. 106.0251. ELIGIBLE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER EDUCATION.

1	(a) The fo	llow	ing institutions of higher education are eligible
2	for a grant	awar	d under this chapter:
3		(1)	Baylor College of Medicine;
4		(2)	Texas A&M University Health Science Center;
5		(3)	Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center;
6		(4)	Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center at El
7	Paso;		
8		(5)	University of North Texas Health Science Center at
9	Fort Worth;		
10		(6)	Dell Medical School at The University of Texas at
11	Austin;		
12		(7)	The University of Texas Medical Branch at
13	<u>Galveston;</u>		
14		(8)	The University of Texas Health Science Center at
15	Houston;		
16		(9)	The University of Texas Health Science Center at
17	San Antonio	<u>;</u>	
18		(10)	The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School
19	of Medicine	<u>;</u>	
20		(11)	The University of Texas Health Science Center at
21	Tyler;		
22		(12)	The University of Texas Southwestern Medical
23	<pre>Center;</pre>		
24		(13)	The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer
25	<u>Center;</u>		
26		(14)	University of Houston College of Medicine; and
7		(15)	Sam Houston State University College of

1	Osteopathic Medicine.				
2	(b) Any time before or during the application process or				
3	after a grant is awarded under this chapter, the grant recipient may				
4	use the money received from a grant awarded under this chapter for				
5	purposes of this chapter and in a collaborative partnership with:				
6	(1) another eligible institution;				
7	(2) a general academic institution of higher				
8	education;				
9	(3) a historically black college or university;				
10	(4) a nonprofit or for-profit organization;				
11	(5) a health care organization;				
12	(6) a branch of the United States armed forces;				
13	(7) a private company;				
14	(8) a federal, state, or local government; or				
15	(9) another relevant person or organization.				
16	Sec. 106.0252. PEER REVIEW PROCESS. The research committee				
17	shall develop and oversee a peer review process for the selection of				
18	brain research projects. The peer review process must evaluate				
19	research projects based on the extent to which the project:				
20	(1) aligns with the research plan;				
21	(2) aligns with state priorities and needs, including				
22	priorities and needs outlined in other state agency strategic				
23	plans, or addresses federal or other major research sponsors				
24	priorities in scientific or technological fields in the area of				
25	<pre>brain research;</pre>				
26	(3) enhances the research superiority at eligible				
27	institutions of higher education by creating new research				

- 1 superiority, attracting existing research superiority, or
- 2 enhancing existing research superiority;
- 3 (4) benefits the residents of this state, including a
- 4 demonstrable economic or job creation benefit to this state; and
- 5 (5) if applicable, is interdisciplinary or
- 6 interinstitutional, or has collaborators or partnerships.
- 7 Sec. 106.0253. GRANT AWARD RULES AND PROCEDURES. The
- 8 oversight committee shall adopt rules and establish procedures for
- 9 awarding grants under this chapter. The rules must require the
- 10 research committee to score grant applications and make
- 11 recommendations to the oversight committee regarding the award of
- 12 grants, including the creation of a prioritized list that:
- 13 <u>(1) ranks the grant applications in the order the</u>
- 14 research committee determines applications should be funded; and
- 15 (2) includes information explaining the reasons each
- 16 grant application on the list meets the research committee's
- 17 standards for recommendation.
- Sec. 106.0254. GRANT EVALUATION. (a) The oversight
- 19 committee shall require as a condition of a grant awarded under this
- 20 chapter that the grant recipient submit to regular inspection
- 21 reviews of the grant project by institute staff to ensure
- 22 compliance with the terms of the grant and to ensure the scientific
- 23 merit of the research.
- 24 (b) The chief executive officer, with approval of the
- 25 oversight committee, shall determine the grant review process under
- 26 this section.
- 27 (c) The chief executive officer shall report at least

- 1 annually to the oversight committee on the progress and continued
- 2 merit of each research project awarded a grant by the institute.
- 3 (d) The institute shall establish and implement reporting
- 4 requirements to ensure that each grant recipient complies with the
- 5 terms and conditions in the grant contract.
- 6 (e) The institute shall implement a system to:
- 7 (1) track the dates grant recipient reports are due
- 8 and are received by the institute; and
- 9 (2) monitor the status of any required report not
- 10 timely submitted to the institute by a grant recipient.
- 11 (f) The chief compliance officer shall monitor compliance
- 12 with this section and shall inquire into and monitor the status of
- 13 any required report not timely submitted to the institute by a grant
- 14 recipient. The chief compliance officer shall notify the general
- 15 counsel for the institute and the oversight committee of a grant
- 16 recipient that has not complied with the reporting requirements or
- 17 provisions of the grant contract to allow the institute to begin
- 18 suspension or termination of the grant contract. This subsection
- 19 does not limit other remedies available under the grant contract.
- Sec. 106.0255. MULTIYEAR PROJECTS. The oversight committee
- 21 may award grant money for a multiyear project.
- Sec. 106.0256. GRANT AWARD RECOMMENDATIONS. Two-thirds of
- 23 the members of the oversight committee present and voting must vote
- 24 to approve a grant application recommended by the research
- 25 committee to award a grant under this chapter. If the oversight
- 26 committee does not approve a recommendation of the research
- 27 committee, the oversight committee must ensure that the minutes of

- 1 the meeting include a statement explaining the reasons the
- 2 recommendation was not approved.
- 3 Sec. 106.0257. MEDICAL AND RESEARCH ETHICS. Any research
- 4 project that is awarded a grant under this chapter must comply with
- 5 all applicable federal and state laws regarding the conduct of
- 6 research.
- 7 Sec. 106.0258. PUBLIC INFORMATION. (a) The following
- 8 information is public information and may be disclosed under
- 9 Chapter 552, Government Code:
- 10 (1) the applicant's name and address;
- 11 (2) the amount requested in the applicant's grant
- 12 proposal;
- 13 (3) the type of brain research to be addressed under
- 14 the proposal; and
- 15 (4) any other information the institute designates
- 16 with the consent of the grant applicant.
- 17 (b) To protect the actual or potential value of information
- 18 submitted to the institute by an applicant for or recipient of an
- 19 institute grant, the following information submitted by the
- 20 applicant or recipient is confidential and is not subject to
- 21 <u>disclosure under Chapter 552</u>, Government Code, or any other law:
- 22 (1) all information, other than the information
- 23 required under Subsection (a) that is contained in a grant award
- 24 contract between the institute and a grant recipient, relating to a
- 25 product, device, or process, the application or use of the product,
- 26 device, or process, and all technological and scientific
- 27 information, including computer programs, developed wholly or

- 1 partly by a grant applicant or recipient, regardless of whether
- 2 patentable or capable of being registered under copyright or
- 3 trademark laws, that has a potential for being sold, traded, or
- 4 licensed for a fee; and
- 5 (2) the plans, specifications, blueprints, and
- 6 designs, including related proprietary information, of a
- 7 scientific research and development facility.
- 8 (c) The institute shall post on the institute's Internet
- 9 website records that pertain specifically to any gift, grant, or
- 10 other consideration provided to the institute, an institute
- 11 employee, or a member of an institute committee. The posted
- 12 information must include each donor's name and the amount and date
- 13 <u>of the donor's</u> donation.
- 14 Sec. 106.0259. COMPLIANCE PROGRAM; CONFIDENTIAL
- 15 INFORMATION. (a) In this section, "compliance program" means a
- 16 process to assess and ensure compliance by the institute's
- 17 committee members and employees with applicable laws, rules, and
- 18 policies, including matters of:
- 19 (1) ethics and standards of conduct;
- 20 (2) financial reporting;
- 21 (3) internal accounting controls; and
- 22 <u>(4) auditing.</u>
- 23 (b) The institute shall establish a compliance program that
- 24 operates under the direction of the institute's chief compliance
- 25 officer.
- 26 (c) The following information is confidential and not
- 27 subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code:

1 (1) information that directly or indirectly reveals the identity of an individual who made a report to the institute's 2 compliance program office, sought guidance from the office, or 3 participated in an investigation conducted under the compliance 4 5 program; 6 (2) information that directly or indirectly reveals 7 the identity of an individual who is alleged to have or may have planned, initiated, or participated in activities that are the 8 subject of a report made to the office if, after completing an 9 10 investigation, the office determines the report be to unsubstantiated or without merit; and 11 12 (3) other information that is collected or produced in a compliance program investigation if releasing the information 13 14 would interfere with an ongoing compliance investigation. 15 (d) Subsection (c) does not apply to information related to an individual who consents to disclosure of the information. 16 17 (e) Information made confidential or excepted from public disclosure by this section may be made available to the following on 18 19 request in compliance with applicable laws and procedures: (1) a law enforcement agency or prosecutor; 20 21 (2) a governmental agency responsible investigating a matter that is the subject of a compliance report, 22 including the Texas Workforce Commission civil rights division or 23 24 the federal Equal Employment Opportunity Commission; or 25 (3) a committee member or institute employee who is 26 responsible under institutional policy for a compliance program

investigation or for a review of a compliance program

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- 1 <u>investigation</u>.
- 2 (f) A disclosure under Subsection (e) is not a voluntary
- 3 <u>disclosure for purposes of Section 552.007</u>, Government Code.
- 4 Sec. 106.0260. CLOSED MEETING. The oversight committee may
- 5 conduct a closed meeting under Chapter 551, Government Code, to
- 6 discuss an ongoing compliance investigation into issues related to
- 7 fraud, waste, or abuse of state resources.
- 8 Sec. 106.0261. APPROPRIATION CONTINGENCY. The institute is
- 9 required to implement a provision of this chapter only if the
- 10 legislature appropriates money specifically for that purpose. If
- 11 the legislature does not appropriate money specifically for that
- 12 purpose, the institute may, but is not required to, implement the
- 13 provision using other money available to the institute for that
- 14 purpose.
- 15 SECTION 2. Section 51.955(c), Education Code, is amended to
- 16 read as follows:
- 17 (c) Subsection (b)(1) does not apply to a research contract
- 18 between an institution of higher education and the Cancer
- 19 Prevention and Research Institute of Texas or Brain Institute of
- 20 Texas.
- SECTION 3. (a) Not later than December 1, 2022, the
- 22 appropriate appointing authority shall appoint the members to the
- 23 Brain Institute of Texas Oversight Committee as required by Section
- 24 106.0101, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act. The
- 25 oversight committee may not take action until a majority of the
- 26 appointed members have taken office.
- 27 (b) Notwithstanding Section 106.0101, Health and Safety

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- 1 Code, as added by this Act, in making the initial appointments under
- 2 that section, the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the
- 3 house of representatives shall, as applicable, designate one member
- 4 of the Brain Institute of Texas appointed by that person to serve a
- 5 term expiring January 31, 2024, one member appointed by that person
- 6 to serve a term expiring January 31, 2026, and one member appointed
- 7 by that person to serve a term expiring January 31, 2028.
- 8 SECTION 4. If the constitutional amendment proposed by the
- 9 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021, authorizing the issuance
- 10 of general obligation bonds and the dedication of bond proceeds to
- 11 the Brain Institute of Texas research fund established to fund
- 12 brain research is approved by the voters, the Brain Institute of
- 13 Texas established by Chapter 106, Health and Safety Code, as added
- 14 by this Act, is eligible to receive funding through the proceeds
- 15 deposited under the authority of Section 68, Article III, Texas
- 16 Constitution, for any activities conducted by the institute that
- 17 serve the purposes of that constitutional provision.
- SECTION 5. This Act takes effect January 1, 2022, but only
- 19 if the constitutional amendment proposed by the 87th Legislature,
- 20 Regular Session, 2021, authorizing the issuance of general
- 21 obligation bonds and the dedication of bond proceeds to the Brain
- 22 Institute of Texas research fund established to fund brain research
- 23 in this state is approved by the voters. If that amendment is not
- 24 approved by the voters, this Act has no effect.