

1-1 By: Burns, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Kolkhorst) H.B. No. 2851  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 3, 2023;  
1-3 May 5, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Water,  
1-4 Agriculture & Rural Affairs; May 19, 2023, reported favorably by  
1-5 the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 19, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	<u>Perry</u>	X		
1-9	<u>Hancock</u>	X		
1-10	<u>Blanco</u>	X		
1-11	<u>Flores</u>	X		
1-12	<u>Gutierrez</u>	X		
1-13	<u>Johnson</u>	X		
1-14	<u>Kolkhorst</u>	X		
1-15	<u>Sparks</u>	X		
1-16	<u>Springer</u>	X		

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the composition of the board of directors of the Texas  
1-20 Agricultural Finance Authority and grant amounts under the young  
1-21 farmer grant program administered by the authority.

1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-23 SECTION 1. Section 58.012(a), Agriculture Code, is amended  
1-24 to read as follows:

1-25 (a) The authority is governed by a board of directors  
1-26 composed of the commissioner of agriculture, a representative of  
1-27 the College of Agriculture and Human Sciences [~~the director of the~~  
1-28 ~~Institute for International Agribusiness Studies~~] at Prairie View  
1-29 A&M University selected by the dean of the college, a  
1-30 representative of the College of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
1-31 at Tarleton State University selected by the dean of the college,  
1-32 and 10 [~~nine~~] members appointed by the commissioner. Members of  
1-33 the board must be appointed in the numbers specified and from the  
1-34 following categories:

1-35 (1) one person who is an elected or appointed official  
1-36 of a municipality or county;

1-37 (2) four persons who are knowledgeable about  
1-38 agricultural lending practices;

1-39 (3) one person who is a representative of agricultural  
1-40 businesses;

1-41 (4) one person who is a representative of agriculture  
1-42 related entities, including rural chambers of commerce,  
1-43 foundations, trade associations, institutions of higher education,  
1-44 or other entities involved in agricultural matters; [~~and~~]

1-45 (5) two persons who represent young farmers and the  
1-46 interests of young farmers; and

1-47 (6) one person who is knowledgeable about agricultural  
1-48 practices and graduated with an agriculture degree from a state  
1-49 institution of higher education within the past eight years.

1-50 SECTION 2. Section 58.093, Agriculture Code, is amended to  
1-51 read as follows:

1-52 Sec. 58.093. AMOUNT OF GRANTS. A grant under the young  
1-53 farmer grant program may not be less than \$5,000 or more than  
1-54 \$35,000 [~~\$20,000~~].

1-55 SECTION 3. Section 58.093, Agriculture Code, as amended by  
1-56 this Act, applies only to a grant issued on or after the effective  
1-57 date of this Act. A grant issued before the effective date of this  
1-58 Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the grant is issued,  
1-59 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

1-60 SECTION 4. The changes in law made by this Act in the  
1-61 qualifications of appointed members of the board of directors of

2-1 the Texas Agricultural Finance Authority do not affect the  
2-2 entitlement of an appointed member serving on the board immediately  
2-3 before the effective date of this Act to continue to serve for the  
2-4 remainder of the member's term. As the terms of board members  
2-5 expire, the commissioner of agriculture shall appoint or reappoint  
2-6 a member who has the qualifications required for a member under  
2-7 Section [58.012](#)(a), Agriculture Code, as amended by this Act.

2-8 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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