

By: Leach

H.B. No. 3473

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the members of the Court Reporters Certification
3 Advisory Board.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 154.051, Government Code, is amended by
6 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (f-1) to read as
7 follows:

8 (a) The Court Reporters Certification Advisory Board is
9 established as an advisory board to the commission. The advisory
10 board is composed of at least nine [~~seven~~] members appointed by the
11 supreme court as follows:

12 (1) one active district judge presiding over a court
13 that employs an official court reporter;

14 (2) one active attorney licensed in this state who has
15 been a practicing member of the State Bar for more than the five
16 years immediately preceding the attorney's appointment to the
17 advisory board;

18 (3) two certified shorthand [~~active official court~~]
19 reporters actively engaged in the practice of official court [~~who~~
20 ~~have practiced shorthand~~] reporting in this state for more than the
21 five years immediately preceding their appointment to the advisory
22 board;

23 (4) two [~~active~~] certified shorthand reporters
24 actively engaged in the practice of [~~who work on a freelance basis~~

1 ~~and who have practiced]~~ shorthand reporting on a freelance basis
2 for more than the five years immediately preceding their
3 appointment to the advisory board; ~~and]~~

4 (5) one certified shorthand reporter actively engaged
5 in practice as a captioner in this state for more than the five
6 years immediately preceding the captioner's appointment to the
7 advisory board; and

8 (6) two certified shorthand reporters who:

9 (A) own a shorthand reporting firm in this state;
10 and

11 (B) have owned and ~~[one representative of a~~
12 ~~shorthand reporting firm that has]~~ operated ~~[as]~~ a shorthand
13 reporting firm in this state for more than the five ~~[three]~~ years
14 immediately preceding their ~~[the representative's]~~ appointment to
15 the advisory board.

16 (f-1) Not later than the 90th day before the expiration of
17 an advisory board member's term, the commission:

18 (1) shall post on the commission's Internet website
19 notice of the availability of the membership position;

20 (2) shall accept resumes from and conduct interviews
21 of any qualified individuals interested in appointment to the
22 position; and

23 (3) may recommend to the supreme court one or more of
24 the qualified individuals for appointment to the advisory board.

25 SECTION 2. (a) As soon as practicable after the effective
26 date of this Act, the Texas Supreme Court shall appoint two
27 additional members of the Court Reporters Certification Advisory

1 Board in accordance with Section 154.051(a), Government Code, as
2 amended by this Act.

3 (b) The changes in law made by this Act to the
4 qualifications of members of the Court Reporters Certification
5 Advisory Board do not affect the entitlement of a member serving on
6 the advisory board immediately before the effective date of this
7 Act to continue to carry out the member's functions for the
8 remainder of the member's term. The change in law made by this Act
9 applies only to a member appointed or reappointed on or after the
10 effective date of this Act. This Act does not prohibit a person who
11 is a member of the advisory board on the effective date of this Act
12 from being reappointed to the advisory board if the person has the
13 qualifications required for membership under Section 154.051,
14 Government Code, as amended by this Act.

15 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.