

By: Blanco

S.B. No. 272

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the composition of the governor's broadband development council.

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

SECTION 1. Section 490H.002(a), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) The council is composed of one nonvoting member appointed by the broadband development office and the following voting members appointed by the governor:

(1) two representatives of separate Internet service provider industry associations, including at least one representative of an association that primarily represents small providers, as defined by Section 56.032, Utilities Code;

(2) one representative of the health information technology industry;

(3) two representatives of unaffiliated nonprofit organizations that advocate for elderly persons statewide;

(4) two representatives of unaffiliated nonprofit organizations that have a demonstrated history of working with the legislature and the public to identify solutions for expanding broadband to rural, unserved areas of this state;

(5) one representative of an agricultural advocacy organization in this state;

(6) one representative of a hospital advocacy

1 organization in this state;

2 (7) one representative of a medical advocacy  
3 organization in this state;

4 (8) one county official who serves in an elected  
5 office of a county with a population of less than 35,000;

6 (8-a) one county clerk of a county with a population of  
7 less than 60,000;

8 (8-b) one sheriff of a county with a population of less  
9 than 60,000;

10 (9) one municipal official who serves in an elected  
11 office of a municipality with a population of less than 20,000  
12 located in a county with a population of less than 60,000;

13 (10) one representative of an institution of higher  
14 education that has its main campus in a county with a population of  
15 less than 60,000;

16 (11) one representative of a school district with a  
17 territory that includes only counties with a population of less  
18 than 60,000;

19 (12) one representative from a library association;

20 (13) one hospital administrator employed by a licensed  
21 hospital located in a county with a population of less than 60,000;

22 (14) one representative from an electric cooperative  
23 providing broadband;

24 (15) one representative of a school district with a  
25 territory that includes all or part of a county with a population of  
26 more than 500,000; ~~and~~

27 (16) one representative of a nonprofit organization

1 that has a demonstrated history of facilitating broadband adoption  
2 by offering digital literacy training or providing access to  
3 broadband technology; and

4 (17) one representative from a federally recognized  
5 Indian tribe that is listed on the annual list of Indian tribes  
6 published by the United States secretary of the interior as  
7 required under 25 U.S.C. Section 5131 and that has tribal land in  
8 this state.

9 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.