

By: Hughes S.B. No. 1985
(Cain, Ashby, Holland, Harris of Anderson, Meza, et al.)

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the reestablishment of the committee to study the
3 formation of a Texas Bicentennial Commission.

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

5 SECTION 1. DEFINITION. In this Act, "committee" means the
6 committee reestablished under Section 2 of this Act.

7 SECTION 2. COMMITTEE. (a) The committee established by
8 Chapter 734 (H.B. 4056), Acts of the 87th Legislature, Regular
9 Session, 2021, is reestablished to continue carrying out the
10 committee's duties. A person who served on the committee
11 established by Chapter 734 may be reappointed to the committee
12 under Subsection (b) of this section by the relevant appointing
13 authority.

14 (b) The committee is composed of 18 members as follows:

15 (1) one member appointed by the governor who serves as
16 presiding officer;

17 (2) one member appointed jointly by the lieutenant
18 governor and the speaker of the house of representatives who serves
19 as assistant presiding officer;

20 (3) five senators appointed by the lieutenant
21 governor;

22 (4) five members of the house of representatives
23 appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives; and

24 (5) six nonvoting members appointed by the governor

1 who are residents of this state with at least one member appointed
2 from each state senatorial district that contains one of the
3 following:

4 (A) Fair Park;

5 (B) the San Jacinto Battleground State Historic
6 Site;

7 (C) the Alamo;

8 (D) the State Capitol; or

9 (E) Washington-on-the-Brazos State Historic
10 Site.

11 (c) The committee must reflect the racial, ethnic, and
12 geographic diversity of this state.

13 (d) The committee shall meet at the call of the presiding
14 officer. Committee meetings may be held in person, by telephone, or
15 by other means of communication.

16 (e) The committee may establish subcommittees to assist the
17 committee in carrying out its duties under this Act.

18 (f) A member of the committee may not receive compensation
19 for service on the committee.

20 (g) The General Land Office and the Texas Historical
21 Commission shall provide administrative support services at the
22 request of the committee, including assisting in drafting and
23 compiling the report required by this Act.

24 (h) Committee meetings must be open to the public.

25 SECTION 3. STUDY; REPORT. (a) The committee shall study
26 the formation of a Texas Bicentennial Commission to plan this
27 state's celebration of the 2036 bicentennial, including:

1 (1) the composition of the commission, the manner of
2 appointing its members, and the total number of members; and

3 (2) the scope and duties of the commission.

4 (b) Not later than September 30, 2024, the committee shall
5 submit a written report to each member of the legislature with
6 recommendations on the areas of study described by Subsection (a)
7 of this section and any other recommendations the committee
8 considers appropriate. The committee shall submit a second report
9 to each member of the legislature not later than September 30, 2026,
10 covering the committee's activities performed after the date the
11 first report is submitted.

12 SECTION 4. EXPIRATION. The committee is abolished and this
13 Act expires January 1, 2027.

14 SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September
15 1, 2023.