

By: Swinford

H.B. No. 53

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to designating the presiding officer of the governing body of certain state agencies.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 651, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 651.010 to read as follows:

Sec. 651.010. APPOINTMENT OF PRESIDING OFFICERS BY GOVERNOR. (a) In this section, "state agency" means a department, commission, board, office, council, authority, or other agency in the executive branch of state government that is created by the constitution or a statute of this state, including:

(1) a university system or institution of higher education as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code; and

(2) a river authority as defined by Section 30.003, Water Code.

(b) Notwithstanding other law, the governor may designate a member of the governing body of each state agency as the presiding officer of that governing body to serve in that capacity at the pleasure of the governor.

(c) This section does not apply to a state agency that is headed by one or more statewide-elected officials or to an entity that advises or reports to a state agency headed by one or more statewide-elected officials.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect November 1, 2003.