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        By: Hegar
                                                                           S.B. No. 1207
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                 (In the Senate - Filed March 6, 2007; March 14, 2007, read
        first time and referred to Committee on Intergovernmental Relations; March 29, 2007, reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 3, Nays 0;
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        March 29, 2007, sent to printer.)
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        COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1207
                                                                         By: Wentworth
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                                     A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
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                                              AN ACT
        relating to the removal by the county commissioners court of appointed special district board members who engage in misconduct.
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                BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
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        SECTION 1. Subtitle C, Title 5, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Chapter 177 to read as follows:
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                CHAPTER 177. REMOVAL OF SPECIAL DISTRICT BOARD MEMBERS
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                             SUBCHAPTER A. GENERAL PROVISIONS
                      177.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:
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                       (1) "Board" means the governing body of a special
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        district.
                       (2) "Director" means a board member.(3) "Special district" means a political subdivision
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        of this state with a limited geographic area created by local law or
        under general law for a special purpose.

[Sections 177.002-177.050 reserved for expansion]

SUBCHAPTER B. REMOVAL OF APPOINTED BOARD MEMBERS FOR MISCONDUCT

Sec. 177.051. APPLICABILITY. (a) This subchapter applies
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        only to an appointed director. The subchapter does not apply to a
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        director who:
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                             serves ex officio;
                             is elected;
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                       (3)
                             is appointed to fill a vacancy in an elected
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        director position; or
        (4) is appointed by the governor.

(b) This subchapter applies to any type of special district with a board that is wholly or partly appointed, including:
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                             agricultural development districts;
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                       (1)
                       (2)
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                             appraisal districts;
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                       (3)
                             athletic stadium authorities;
                             civic center authorities;
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                       (5)
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                             coastal water authorities;
1-41
                       (6)
                             coordinated county transportation authorities;
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                       (7)
                            conservation and reclamation districts;
1-43
                       (8)
                             county development districts;
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                       (9)
                             county health care funding districts;
                       (10)
                              county hospital authorities;
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                       (11)
                             county mass transit authorities;
                              crime control and prevention districts;
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                       (12)
                       (13)
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                              defense adjustment management authorities;
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                              defense base development authorities;
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                       (15)
                              districts governing groundwater;
                              drainage districts;
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                       (16)
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                       (17)
                              emergency communication districts;
                              emergency services districts;
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                       (18)
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                       (19)
                               fire control, prevention, and emergency medical
        services districts;
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                       (20)
                              freight rail districts;
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                       (21)
                              fresh water supply districts;
                       (22)
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                              groundwater conservation districts;
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                       (23)
                              health care funding districts;
                              health services districts;
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                       (24)
                       (25)
                              higher education facility authorities;
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                       (26)
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                              hospital districts;
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improvement districts;

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                             indigent health care districts
                             intermunicipal commuter rail districts;
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                      (29)
                      (30)
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                             irrigation districts;
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                      (31)
                             jail districts;
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                      (32)
                             levee improvement districts;
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                      (33)
                             library districts;
metropolitan rapid transit authorities;
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                      (34)
 2-8
                      (35)
                             multi-jurisdictional library districts;
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                      (36)
                             municipal development districts;
                             municipal hospital authorities;
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                      (38)
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                             municipal management districts;
                             municipal utility districts;
                      (39)
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                             navigation districts;
                      (40)
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                      (41)
                             noxious weed control districts;
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                             park and recreation districts;
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                      (42)
                      (43)
                             parks and recreational facilities districts;
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                            port authorities;
                      (44)
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                      (45)
                            public improvement districts;
                      (46)
                             rail districts;
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                      (47)
                             rapid transit authorities;
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                      (48)
                             regional districts;
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                      (49)
                            regional transportation authorities;
                            river authorities;
2-23
                      (50)
                      (51)
                             road districts;
2-24
                             road utility districts;
                      (52)
(53)
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                             rural rail transportation districts;
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                            rural transit districts;
                      (54)
                           school districts;
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                      (55)
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                      (56)
                            seawall commissions;
                             solid waste management districts;
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                      (58)
                             soil and water conservation districts;
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                      (59) special utility districts;
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                      (60)
                           sports and community venue districts;
                             sports facility districts;
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                      (61)
                      (62)
(63)
                             stormwater control districts;
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2-36
                            subsidence districts;
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                            urban transit districts;
                      (64)
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                      (65)
                           water control and improvement districts;
                             water control and preservation districts;
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                      (66)
                      (67) water districts;
(68) water import authorities; and
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                             water improvement districts.
                      (69)
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                     177.052. EXEMPTIONS. (a) This subchapter does not
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        apply to a regional planning commission under Chapter 391.
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        (b) This subchapter does not apply to a director who is a county officer under Section 24, Article V, Texas Constitution.

Sec. 177.053. REMOVAL OF DIRECTOR BY COMMISSIONERS COURT
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             MISCONDUCT. (a) The commissioners court of a county may
        remove a director of a special district located wholly or partly in the county as provided by this subchapter for the director's
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        misconduct.

(b) To the extent of a conflict, this section prevails over
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        any conflicting law.
                                            (a) A commissioners court that
               Sec. 177.054.
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                                 HEARING.
        desires to remove a director for misconduct shall hold a hearing on
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        the director's removal.
               (b) The director and any interested person is entitled to
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        appear at the hearing.

Sec. 177.055. ORDER REMOVING DIRECTOR. (a) To remove director of a special district located wholly in one county, commissioners court of the county must:
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                                                                 (a) To r<u>emove a</u>
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                      (1) find after the hearing that the director engaged
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        in misconduct; and
                     (2) issue an order removing the director.
To remove a director of a special district located in
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        more than one county:
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                      (1) a commissioners court that appointed the director
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on its sole authority must find after the hearing that the director engaged in misconduct and issue an order removing the director; or

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(2) for a director appointed other than on the sole authority of a single commissioners court, the commissioners court of each county in which the district is located must find after the hearing held by that court that the director engaged in misconduct and issue an order removing the director.

Sec. 177.056. VACANCY. (a) If a general or special law

Sec. 177.056. VACANCY. (a) If a general or special law that governs the special district does not provide a method for filling a vacancy, the commissioners court that removed the director by order may appoint a director to serve the remainder of the removed director's term.

the removed director's term.

(b) If the special district is located wholly or partly in more than one county and if the action of more than one commissioners court was needed under Section 177.055(b)(2) to remove the director, the commissioners court of each of those counties must agree on the appointment.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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