

By: Alonzo

H.B. No. 186

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 186:

By: Moody

C.S.H.B. No. 186

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the creation of the Bureau for Economic Development and
3 Hispanic Studies.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subtitle E, Title 4, Government Code, is amended
6 by adding Chapter 470 to read as follows:

7 CHAPTER 470. BUREAU FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND
8 HISPANIC STUDIES

9 Sec. 470.001. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "bureau" means
10 the Bureau for Economic Development and Hispanic Studies.

11 Sec. 470.002. BUREAU; MEMBERS. (a) The Bureau for Economic
12 Development and Hispanic Studies is an agency of the state.

13 (b) The bureau is composed of nine members appointed as
14 follows:

15 (1) three members appointed by the governor;

16 (2) three members appointed by the lieutenant governor
17 from a list of nominees submitted by the Hispanic Caucus of the
18 senate; and

19 (3) three members appointed by the speaker of the
20 house of representatives from a list of nominees submitted by the
21 Mexican American Legislative Caucus of the house of
22 representatives.

23 (c) The Mexican American Legislative Caucus of the house of
24 representatives and the Hispanic Caucus of the senate, in

1 nominating members, and the governor, lieutenant governor, and
2 speaker of the house of representatives, in appointing members,
3 shall provide for representation of the diversity of this state and
4 shall include members from both urban and rural areas and from all
5 geographic areas of the state. If necessary to make the
6 appointments under Subsection (b), the lieutenant governor and
7 speaker of the house of representatives may request the appropriate
8 caucus to provide additional lists of nominees.

9 (d) A member of the bureau must:

10 (1) be a resident of this state; and

11 (2) have demonstrated an interest in preserving the
12 cultural heritage of the Hispanic citizens of this state and in
13 advancing educational and economic opportunities and political
14 rights for Hispanic citizens.

15 Sec. 470.003. TERMS. Members serve for staggered terms of
16 six years, with the terms of one-third of the members expiring
17 February 1 of each odd-numbered year.

18 Sec. 470.004. MEETINGS; OFFICERS; OFFICE. (a) The bureau
19 shall hold at least one regular meeting in each calendar quarter of
20 each year.

21 (b) At its first meeting in each odd-numbered year, the
22 bureau shall select from its membership a presiding officer and an
23 assistant presiding officer.

24 (c) The bureau shall maintain its main office in Dallas.

25 Sec. 470.005. EXPENSES. Subject to the availability of
26 funds, a member of the bureau is entitled to reimbursement for
27 expenses incurred for service on the bureau, as provided by the

1 General Appropriations Act. A member may not receive any
2 compensation for that service.

3 Sec. 470.006. SUNSET PROVISION. The bureau is subject to
4 Chapter 325 (Texas Sunset Act). Unless continued in existence as
5 provided by that chapter, the bureau is abolished and this chapter
6 expires September 1, 2021.

7 Sec. 470.007. PERSONNEL. The bureau may employ an
8 executive director and personnel necessary to implement this
9 chapter.

10 Sec. 470.008. DUTIES. Subject to the availability of
11 funds, the bureau shall:

12 (1) develop proposals for maximizing trade between
13 this state and all foreign countries;

14 (2) undertake research to encourage the analysis of
15 public policies affecting Hispanic citizens;

16 (3) conduct studies and develop policy proposals on
17 issues of particular interest and importance to Hispanic citizens,
18 including studies and policies relating to:

19 (A) educational issues;

20 (B) employment opportunities, including means by
21 which opportunities created by foreign trade agreements and federal
22 funds may be used to prevent loss of jobs by Hispanic citizens;

23 (C) access to social services;

24 (D) family issues, including issues regarding
25 child abuse and family violence;

26 (E) political rights and access, including
27 voting rights and rights relating to the use of languages;

1 (F) immigration rights;

2 (G) administrative law and regulatory issues;

3 (H) customs law and other law governing
4 international trade;

5 (I) relevant cultural differences, including the
6 effects of use of different languages;

7 (J) affirmative action programs;

8 (K) alcohol and drug abuse; and

9 (L) other pertinent issues;

10 (4) serve as a clearinghouse of information for other
11 agencies and organizations concerned with issues of importance to
12 Hispanic citizens; and

13 (5) distribute the results of its studies and policy
14 proposals to appropriate federal, state, and local governmental
15 agencies and officials, community organizations, private leaders,
16 and the public.

17 Sec. 470.009. ASSISTANCE. The Texas Economic Development
18 and Tourism Office and state institutions of higher education shall
19 assist the bureau in carrying out its duties, including making
20 their facilities available to the bureau at the office's or
21 institution of higher education's own expense.

22 Sec. 470.010. GIFTS AND GRANTS. The bureau may accept gifts
23 and grants from any source to be used to carry out the bureau's
24 duties. The bureau shall actively seek gifts from businesses and
25 organizations that represent businesses to support the bureau's
26 functions.

27 SECTION 2. In making the initial appointments to the Bureau

1 for Economic Development and Hispanic Studies, the governor,
2 lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives
3 shall each designate one member for a term expiring February 1,
4 2011, one member for a term expiring February 1, 2013, and one
5 member for a term expiring February 1, 2015.

6 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.