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By: Truitt (Senate Sponsor - Duncan)

(In the Senate - Received from the House April 12, 2011;

April 20, 2011, read first time and referred to Committee on State
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          Affairs; May 20, 2011, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 20, 2011, sent to printer.)
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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

relating to service and qualifications for membership on an advisory committee established by the Employees Retirement System of Texas to provide advice to the board of trustees on investments and investment-related issues.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 815, Government Code, is amended by adding Sections 815.5091, 815.5092, and 815.5093 to read as follows:

815.5091 MEMBERSHIP ONADVISORY Sec. COMMITTEE INVESTMENTS. (a) The board of trustees may, under the investment duties delegated to the board by Section 67, Article XVI, Texas Constitution, establish an investment advisory committee as the board considers necessary to assist the board in its investment duties.

(b) A person appointed to serve as a member of an advisory committee established by the board of trustees to provide advice to the board on investments and investment-related issues must be:

(1) a person with expertise in the management of a institution or other business in which investment financial decisions are made; or

(2) a prominent educator in the field of economics,

finance, or another investment-related area.

(c) A person appointed to serve as a member of a committee described by Subsection (b) shall assist the board of trustees in carrying out the board's fiduciary duties with regard to the investment of the assets of the retirement system and related

duties under this chapter and Chapter 609.

Sec. 815.5092. INELIGIBILITY FOR MEMBERSHIP ON ADVISORY
COMMITTEE ON INVESTMENTS. (a) A person is not eligible for appointment to an advisory committee established by the board of trustees to provide advice to the board on investments and

investment-related issues if the person or the person's spouse:

(1) is employed by or participates in the management of a business entity or other organization receiving funds from the retirement system;

(2) owns or controls, directly or indirectly, more 10 percent interest in a business entity or other organization receiving funds from the retirement system;

(3) is a paid officer, employee, or consultant Texas trade association in the field of insurance or investment.

(b) A person is not eligible for appointment to a committee described by Subsection (a) if the person is required to register as a lobbyist under Chapter 305 because of the person's activities for compensation on behalf of a business or an association related to the investment of the assets of this state or of the retirement system.

In this section, "Texas trade association" has the (c) meaning assigned by Section 815.0031.

Sec. 815.5093. REVIEW OF AND REMOVAL FROM **ADVISORY** COMMITTEE ON INVESTMENTS. (a) The board of trustees shall at least annually review the eligibility status of members serving on an advisory committee established to provide advice to the board on investments and investment-related issues.
(b) It is a ground for removal from a committee described by

Subsection (a) that a person is:
(1) not qualified for appointment to the committee

1-63 under Section 815.5091 or 815.5092; 1-64

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(2) unable to discharge the person's duties on the committee because of illness, disability, or other personal circumstances; or

(3) absent from more than half of the scheduled meetings of the committee that the person is eligible to attend during a calendar year.

(c) If the executive director or a member of the advisory committee has knowledge that a potential ground for removal exists, the executive director or committee member shall notify the presiding officer of the board of trustees of the potential ground for removal.

(d) This section does not limit the power of the board of trustees to remove a person from the advisory committee under Section 815.509(a).

(e) The board of trustees may prescribe the process for removal from a committee described by Subsection (a).

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.

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