

By: Zedler

H.B. No. 3023

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to procedures to resolve complaints against faculty members at institutions of higher education.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter Z, Chapter 51, Education Code, is amended by adding Section 51.9601 to read as follows:

Sec. 51.9601. PROCEDURES TO RESOLVE COMPLAINTS AGAINST FACULTY MEMBERS. (a) In this section:

(1) "Faculty member" has the meaning assigned by Section 51.960.

(2) "Governing board" and "institution of higher education" have the meanings assigned by Section 61.003.

(b) The governing board of each institution of higher education shall establish and disseminate formal procedures for resolving complaints filed against faculty members at the institution.

(c) The complaint procedures must be designed to protect the rights of faculty members and must provide for:

(1) a written form for filing a complaint against a faculty member;

(2) a written explanation of the procedures, attached to the form described by Subdivision (1);

(3) deadlines that permit a faculty member adequate time to gather and organize documentation and prepare for any

1 hearing or other proceedings on a filed complaint;

2 (4) an impartial decision-making body composed of
3 peers of the faculty member; and

4 (5) an appeals process that permits a faculty member
5 to contest an adverse decision.

6 SECTION 2. The governing board of an institution of higher
7 education shall adopt the complaint procedures required by Section
8 51.9601, Education Code, as added by this Act, not later than
9 December 31, 2013.

10 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.