

By: J. Davis of Harris

H.B. No. 3162

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the Emerging Technology Fund.

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

SECTION 1. Section 490, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER B. TEXAS EMERGING TECHNOLOGY ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sec. 490.051. COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE. The Texas Emerging Technology Advisory Committee is composed of 15 ~~17~~ members.

Sec. 490.052. APPOINTMENT TO COMMITTEE; NOMINATIONS. (a) The governor shall appoint to the committee five ~~13~~ individuals nominated as provided by Subsection (b).

(a-1) The lieutenant governor shall appoint five ~~two~~ individuals to the committee.

(a-2) The speaker of the house of representatives shall appoint five ~~two~~ individuals to the committee.

(b) The following persons may nominate one or more individuals who are industry leaders in this state or who are nationally recognized leaders from public or private institutions of higher education in this state for appointment to the committee:

(1) a president of a public or private institution of higher education in this state;

(2) a representative of the governor's office involved in economic development activities;

(3) a representative of the lieutenant governor's

1 office involved in economic development activities;

2 (4) a representative of the office of the speaker of  
3 the house involved in economic development activities; and

4 (5) other persons considered appropriate by the  
5 governor.

6 (c) The governor may prescribe a date after which a  
7 nomination under Subsection (b) for appointment for the next term  
8 will not be considered.

9 (d) If an insufficient number of qualified individuals are  
10 nominated as provided by Subsection (b) before the date set by the  
11 governor under Subsection (c), the governor, lieutenant governor,  
12 or speaker of the house may appoint any qualified individual to the  
13 board for that term.

14 Sec. 490.053. PRESIDING MEMBER. The governor, lieutenant  
15 governor, and speaker of the house shall, in turn, appoint a  
16 presiding member of the committee. The selection of the presiding  
17 member will rotate between the governor, lieutenant governor, and  
18 speaker of the house, and each presiding member chosen will serve a  
19 two-year term.

20 Sec. 490.054. TERMS. (a) Members of the committee  
21 appointed by the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the  
22 house serve staggered two-year terms, subject to the pleasure of  
23 the appointing entity ~~governor~~.

24 ~~(b) Members of the committee appointed by the lieutenant~~  
25 ~~governor or the speaker of the house of representatives serve~~  
26 ~~two-year terms.~~

27 Sec. 490.055. STAFF AND FUNDING. Necessary staff and

1 funding for the administration of the fund shall be provided by:

2 (1) the office of the governor; and

3 (2) gifts, grants, and donations for overhead expenses  
4 to the office of the governor; and

5 (3) the advisory committee shall hire a fund manager  
6 for the purpose of maintaining the Subchapter D grants.

7 Sec. 490.056. RECOMMENDATIONS FOR FUNDING. (a) The fund  
8 manager, with the advice of the regional centers of innovation and  
9 commercialization, committee shall make recommendations, ~~through~~  
10 ~~peer review and evaluation processes established by the advisory~~  
11 ~~committee, to the advisory board~~ governor, lieutenant governor, and  
12 ~~speaker of the house of representatives~~ for the award of money from  
13 the fund as provided by this chapter.

14 (b) The committee may establish advisory panels of  
15 knowledgeable individuals from industry, state government, or  
16 academic occupations to assist in peer review activities under this  
17 chapter. The final award will be made by the advisory board.

18 This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.