

By: Huffman

S.B. No. 1773

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to a select committee to review and make recommendations
3 for substantive changes to laws overseen by the Texas Ethics
4 Commission.

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

6 SECTION 1. INTERIM STUDY REGARDING TEXAS ETHICS LAWS.

7 (a) A select interim committee is created to study and
8 review the laws and regulations related to Texas ethics laws,
9 including campaign finance laws, lobby laws, and the personal
10 financial disclosure laws.

11 (b) The study must consider:

12 (1) the purposes of the current laws and whether the
13 statutes accomplish those purposes;

14 (2) the effectiveness of the current laws; and

15 (3) what changes, if any, should be made to more
16 effectively accomplish the purposes of the laws.

17 (c) The committee is composed of:

18 (1) four members appointed by the lieutenant governor
19 as follows:

20 (A) three senators; and

21 (B) one member of the public;

22 (2) four members appointed by the speaker of the house
23 of representatives as follows:

24 (A) three state representatives; and

1 (B) one member of the public; and

2 (3) the chairman of the Texas Ethics Commission as of
3 the effective date of this Act.

4 (d) The committee shall convene at the call of the presiding
5 officer.

6 (e) The committee has all other powers and duties provided
7 to a special or select committee by the rules of the senate and
8 house of representatives, by Subchapter B, Chapter 301, Government
9 Code, and by policies of the senate and house committees ohm
10 administration.

11 (f) Not later than December 20, 2014, the committee shall
12 report the committee's findings and recommendations to the
13 lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives,
14 and the governor. The committee shall include in its
15 recommendations specific statutory and rule changes that appear
16 necessary from the results of the committee's study under
17 Subsection (a) of this section.

18 (g) Not later than the 60th day after the effective date of
19 this Act, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of
20 representatives, and the presiding officer of the Texas Ethics
21 Commission shall appoint the members of the committee created under
22 this section.

23 (h) The Texas Legislative Council and the Texas Ethics
24 Commission shall provide any necessary staff and resources to the
25 committee created under this section.

26 SECTION 2. ABOLITION OF COMMITTEE. The committee is
27 abolished and this Act expires December 21, 2014.

1 SECTION 3. This Act is effective September 1, 2013.