

By: Zaffirini  
(Sheffield)

S.B. No. 42

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the selection process for student members of the board  
3 of regents of a state university or state university system.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 51.355(c), Education Code, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (c) Except as provided by Subsection (f), not later than  
8 November 1 of each year, the student government of each general  
9 academic teaching institution and medical and dental unit in a  
10 university system shall solicit applicants for appointment to the  
11 next regular term of the position of student regent. Not later than  
12 January 1, from among the applications received by the student  
13 government, the student government shall select five applicants as  
14 the student government's recommendations for the position of  
15 student regent and send the applications of those applicants to the  
16 chancellor of the university system. From among those applicants,  
17 the chancellor shall select two or more applicants as the  
18 university system's recommendations for the position of student  
19 regent and shall send the applications of those applicants to the  
20 governor not later than February 1. The governor may request to  
21 review all applications for the position of student regent received  
22 by the student governments and may request an applicant to submit  
23 additional information to the governor. On June 1, or as soon  
24 thereafter as practicable, the governor shall appoint one of the

1 applicants to serve as the student regent for the system for a  
2 one-year term expiring on the next May 31. The governor is not  
3 required to appoint an applicant recommended by the chancellor, but  
4 may not appoint a student regent who did not submit an application  
5 to the student government of a general academic teaching  
6 institution or medical and dental unit in the system as described by  
7 this subsection.

8 SECTION 2. Section 51.356(d), Education Code, is amended to  
9 read as follows:

10 (d) Not later than November 1 of each year, the student  
11 government of the general academic teaching institution shall  
12 solicit applicants for appointment to the next regular term of the  
13 position of student regent. Not later than January 1, from among  
14 the applications received by the student government, the student  
15 government shall select five applicants as the student government's  
16 recommendations for the position of student regent and send the  
17 applications of those applicants to the president of the  
18 institution. From among those applicants, the president shall  
19 select two or more applicants as the institution's recommendations  
20 for the position of student regent and shall send the applications  
21 of those applicants to the governor not later than February 1. The  
22 governor may request to review all applications for the position of  
23 student regent received by the student government and may request  
24 an applicant to submit additional information to the governor. On  
25 June 1, or as soon thereafter as practicable, the governor shall  
26 appoint one of the applicants to serve as the student regent for the  
27 institution for a one-year term expiring on the next May 31. The

1 governor is not required to appoint an applicant recommended by the  
2 president, but may not appoint a student regent who did not submit  
3 an application to the student government of the institution as  
4 described by this subsection.

5 SECTION 3. Sections 51.355(c) and 51.356(d), Education  
6 Code, as amended by this Act, are intended only to clarify existing  
7 law with respect to the appointment of student members of the board  
8 of regents of a state university or state university system.

9 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
13 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.