

AN ACT

relating to the creation of the Advisory Council on Cultural Affairs in the office of the governor.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle E, Title 4, Government Code, is amended by adding Chapter 470 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 470. ADVISORY COUNCIL ON CULTURAL AFFAIRS

Sec. 470.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Council" means the Advisory Council on Cultural Affairs.

(2) "State agency" includes an institution of higher education as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code.

Sec. 470.002. ESTABLISHMENT. The Advisory Council on Cultural Affairs is established in the office of the governor to advise the office on setting policy priorities that address and raise public awareness of major issues affecting this state due to the rapid growth of the state's Hispanic population and other issues resulting from changes in demographics in this state as determined by the governor.

Sec. 470.003. COMPOSITION; TERMS. (a) The council is composed of nine members appointed as follows:

(1) one ex officio member of the legislature appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives;

(2) one ex officio member of the legislature appointed

1 by the lieutenant governor; and

2 (3) seven members appointed by the governor.

3 (b) Members appointed by the speaker of the house and the
4 lieutenant governor serve two-year terms. Members appointed by the
5 governor serve four-year staggered terms, with either three or four
6 members' terms expiring February 1 of each odd-numbered year.

7 (c) In making appointments to the council, the appointing
8 officials shall attempt to achieve representation of all areas of
9 the state.

10 (d) The governor shall designate the chair and vice chair of
11 the council from among the members of the council.

12 Sec. 470.004. MEETINGS. The council shall meet at least
13 quarterly each fiscal year. The council may hold meetings by
14 conference call.

15 Sec. 470.005. COMPENSATION. A member of the council is not
16 entitled to compensation or reimbursement of expenses incurred in
17 performing council duties.

18 Sec. 470.006. DUTIES. The council shall study and make
19 recommendations relating to the effect of the changing demographics
20 of this state on the following areas, as they relate to this state:

21 (1) the economy;

22 (2) the workplace;

23 (3) educational attainment;

24 (4) health;

25 (5) veterans affairs; and

26 (6) political leadership.

27 Sec. 470.007. RECOMMENDATIONS. The council shall submit a

1 report of the council's recommendations to the governor, lieutenant
2 governor, and speaker of the house of representatives not later
3 than October 1 of each even-numbered year.

4 Sec. 470.008. EXEMPTION. Chapter 2110 does not apply to the
5 council.

6 Sec. 470.009. ASSISTANCE OF STATE AGENCIES. State agencies
7 and political subdivisions of this state shall cooperate with the
8 council to the greatest extent practicable to fully implement the
9 council's statutory duties.

10 SECTION 2. Not later than October 1, 2015, the speaker of
11 the house of representatives, the lieutenant governor, and the
12 governor shall appoint the members of the Advisory Council on
13 Cultural Affairs established by Chapter 470, Government Code, as
14 added by this Act. In appointing the initial members of the
15 council, the governor shall appoint three persons to terms expiring
16 February 1, 2017, and four to terms expiring February 1, 2019.

17 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 459 passed the Senate on May 5, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 23, Nays 8; May 22, 2015, Senate refused to concur in House amendment and requested appointment of Conference Committee; May 27, 2015, House granted request of the Senate; May 30, 2015, Senate adopted Conference Committee Report by the following vote: Yeas 24, Nays 7.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 459 passed the House, with amendment, on May 18, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 104, Nays 33, one present not voting; May 27, 2015, House granted request of the Senate for appointment of Conference Committee; May 30, 2015, House adopted Conference Committee Report by the following vote: Yeas 95, Nays 48, two present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor