1   AN ACT

2 relating to the governance of certain housing authorities.

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

4   SECTION 1. Section 392.031(b), Local Government Code, is

5 amended to read as follows:

6   (b) A commissioner may not be an officer or employee of the

7 municipality. A commissioner may be:

8   (1) a tenant of a public project over which the housing

9 authority has jurisdiction; or

10   (2) a person who is a recipient of housing assistance

11 administered through the authority's housing choice voucher

12 program.

13   SECTION 2. Section 392.0331, Local Government Code, is

14 amended by amending Subsections (b), (g), and (h) and adding

15 Subsections (b-2) and (h-1) to read as follows:

16   (b) Except as provided by Subsection (b-1), in appointing

17 commissioners under Section 392.031, a municipality with a

18 municipal housing authority composed of five commissioners shall

19 appoint at least one commissioner to the authority who is a tenant

20 of a public housing project over which the authority has

21 jurisdiction. Except as provided by Subsection (b-2), in [In]

22 appointing commissioners under Section 392.031, a municipality

23 with a municipal housing authority composed of seven or more

24 commissioners shall appoint at least two commissioners to the

1 authority who are tenants of a public housing project over which the

2 authority has jurisdiction.

3   (b-2) In appointing commissioners under Section 392.031, a

4 municipality that has a population over two million and a municipal

5 housing authority composed of seven or more commissioners shall

6 appoint at least two commissioners to the authority who are:

7   (1) tenants of a public housing project over which the

8 authority has jurisdiction; or

9   (2) recipients of housing assistance administered

10 through the authority's housing choice voucher program.

11   (g) A commissioner appointed under this section may not

12 participate:

13   (1) in any vote or discussion concerning the

14 termination of:

15   (A) the commissioner's occupancy rights in

16 public housing;

17   (B) the commissioner's rights to housing

18 assistance administered through a housing choice voucher program;

19 or

20   (C) the rights of any person related in the first

21 degree by consanguinity to the commissioner with respect to the

22 person's occupancy rights in public housing or right to receive

23 housing assistance administered through a housing choice voucher

24 program; or

25   (2) in a grievance or administrative hearing in which

26 the commissioner or a person related in the first degree by

27 consanguinity to the commissioner is a party.

1   (h) If a commissioner appointed under this section <u>as a</u>
2 <u>tenant of a public housing project</u> ceases to reside in a housing
3 unit operated by the public housing authority during the
4 commissioner's term, a majority of the other commissioners shall
5 decide whether to request that a new commissioner be appointed. A
6 majority of the commissioners may decide to allow the commissioner
7 to serve the remaining portion of the commissioner's term.

8   <u>(h-1) If a commissioner appointed under this section as a</u>
9 <u>recipient of housing assistance administered through the</u>
10 <u>authority's housing choice voucher program ceases to receive that</u>
11 <u>assistance, a majority of the other commissioners shall decide</u>
12 <u>whether to request that a new commissioner be appointed. A majority</u>
13 <u>of the commissioners may decide to allow the commissioner to serve</u>
14 <u>the remaining portion of the commissioner's term.</u>

15   SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

_____   _____
    President of the Senate   Speaker of the House

    I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1716 passed the Senate on May 4, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 29, Nays 2.

                        _____
                        Secretary of the Senate

    I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1716 passed the House on May 27, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 132, Nays 12, two present not voting.

                        _____
                        Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

_____
              Date

_____
          Governor