By:  Hinojosa, Lucio S.B. No. 1653

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the university advisory committee of and procedure for making awards by the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 102.154(a), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a)  The Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas University Advisory Committee is composed of the following members:

(1)  two members appointed by the chancellor of The University of Texas System to represent:

(A)  The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center;

(B)  The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston;

(C)  The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston;

(D)  The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio;

(E)  The University of Texas Health Center at Tyler; [~~or~~]

(F)  The University of Texas Rio Grande Valley School of Medicine; or

(G)  The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center;

(2)  one member appointed by the chancellor of The Texas A&M University System to represent:

(A)  The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center; or

(B)  the teaching hospital for The Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine;

(3)  one member appointed by the chancellor of the Texas Tech University System to represent the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center;

(4)  one member appointed by the chancellor of the University of Houston System to represent the system;

(5)  one member appointed by the chancellor of the Texas State University System to represent the system;

(6)  one member appointed by the chancellor of the University of North Texas System to represent the system;

(7)  one member appointed by the president of Baylor College of Medicine;

(8)  one member appointed by the president of Rice University;

(9)  members appointed at the executive director's discretion by the chancellors of other institutions.

SECTION 2.  Section 102.251, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subsections (f) and (g) to read as follows:

(f)  The oversight committee may request a list of all grant applications submitted to the institute under this chapter, regardless of whether the grant applications were included on the list submitted to the committee under Subsection (a)(2).

(g)  The institute shall allocate grant money awarded under Subchapter E in a fiscal year to projects located in counties that:

(1)  have been designated under state or federal law as a medically underserved area;

(2)  contain a health-related institution of higher education whose expenditures for research and development in the previous year was not in the top three among health-related institutions; and

(3)  contain a hospital.

(h)  Grant money awarded under subsection (g) for cancer prevention and research purposes may only be used for cancer prevention programming and operations.

SECTION 3.  Section 102.252, Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec.  102.252.  FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS. (a) Two-thirds of the members of the oversight committee present and voting must vote to approve each funding recommendation of the program integration committee. If the oversight committee does not approve a funding recommendation of the program integration committee, a statement explaining the reasons a funding recommendation was not followed must be included in the minutes of the meeting.

(b)  The oversight committee may vote on a grant application included on a list requested by the oversight committee under Section 102.251(f). Two-thirds of the members of the oversight committee present and voting must vote to approve each grant application. If the oversight committee does not approve a grant application, a statement explaining the reasons grant money will not be awarded to the applicant must be included in the minutes of the meeting.

SECTION 4.  Section 102.255, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

(b-1)  If the institute recovers money under Subsection (b)(2) or (3), the institute may award that money during the same grant cycle in accordance with this chapter to a project that the institute determines is able to be imminently commenced.

SECTION 5.  (a) As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas Oversight Committee shall adopt the rules necessary to implement the changes in law made by this Act.

(b)  The changes in law made by this Act apply only to a grant application submitted to the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas on or after the effective date of this Act. A grant application submitted before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the application was submitted, and that law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 6.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.