

By: Moody

H.B. No. 840

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the selection of public members to serve on a county's  
3 salary grievance committee.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 152.015, Local Government Code, is  
6 amended by amending Subsections (a), (b), and (d) and adding  
7 Subsections (b-1) and (b-2) to read as follows:

8 (a) The public members of the salary grievance committee  
9 shall be selected as provided by Subsection (b) or (b-1) at a  
10 meeting of the commissioners court at any time during the year, but  
11 not later than the 15th day after the date a request for a hearing is  
12 received under Section 152.016(a). If a request for a public  
13 hearing is not received, the commissioners court is not required to  
14 select public members.

15 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (b-1), before ~~Before~~  
16 the meeting required by Subsection (a), the county clerk shall  
17 place on a separate slip the name of each person who served on a  
18 grand jury in the county during the preceding calendar year. At the  
19 meeting the slips shall be folded, placed in an appropriate  
20 container, and mixed. The county judge shall draw at random a number  
21 of slips equal to the number of public members needed for the  
22 committee and shall announce the names on the slips. At the meeting  
23 the county judge may repeat this process and make a list of  
24 alternates.

1        (b-1) As an alternative to the process prescribed by  
2 Subsection (b), the commissioners court may direct the county clerk  
3 to use a computer to generate a randomized list of the names of all  
4 persons who served on a grand jury in the county during the  
5 preceding calendar year. At the meeting required by Subsection (a),  
6 the commissioners court shall:

- 7            (1) adopt the randomized list;  
8            (2) enter the list into the minutes of the meeting; and  
9            (3) select, in the order of the list, the necessary  
10 number of public members and alternates.

11        (b-2) A person whose name is selected under this section  
12 [~~drawn~~] becomes a member of the committee or an alternate on  
13 submitting written acceptance of the selection to the clerk. If a  
14 person refuses or is unable to serve on the committee, a replacement  
15 shall be appointed from the list of alternates. If the list of  
16 alternates is exhausted or does not exist, a replacement shall be  
17 selected from the remaining names not already selected, in the same  
18 manner as the replaced member, at the next regular or called  
19 commissioners court meeting [~~by random selection of a slip from the~~  
20 ~~remaining slips~~]. This process shall be repeated until the required  
21 number of public members have accepted the selection [~~is selected~~].

22        (d) A vacancy in a public member position shall be filled  
23 for the unexpired part of the term by appointment from the list of  
24 alternates. If the list of alternates is exhausted or does not  
25 exist, a replacement shall be selected [~~filled by random selection~~  
26 ~~of a slip~~] from the remaining names not already selected, in the  
27 same manner as the vacating member, [~~slips~~] at a meeting of the

1 commissioners court.

2 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.