

AN ACT

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

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

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

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

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

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 840 was passed by the House on April 9, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 1, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 840 was passed by the Senate on May 19, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor