

By: Allen

H.B. No. 1844

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the composition of the Board of Pardons and Paroles.

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

SECTION 1. Section 508.031, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) The board must include at least:

(1) two members who have bachelor's degrees in behavioral mental health, each of whom is:

(A) a licensed clinical social worker, as defined by Section 505.002, Occupations Code;

(B) a licensed professional counselor, as defined by Section 503.002, Occupations Code; or

(C) a psychologist, as defined by Section 501.002, Occupations Code;

(2) one member who has been incarcerated or whose parent, sibling, child, or grandparent has been incarcerated; and

(3) one but not more than three members who have bachelor's degrees in criminal justice or a related field and who are current or former employees of a law enforcement agency.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act does not affect the entitlement of a member serving on the Board of Pardons and Paroles immediately before the effective date of this Act to continue to serve for the remainder of the member's term. As the terms of members expire, the governor shall appoint or reappoint

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1 members who have the qualifications required by Section [508.031](#),
2 Government Code, as amended by this Act.

3 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.