

By: González of El Paso

H.B. No. 1867

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the creation of the Texas Commission on Assessment and
3 Accountability.

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

5 SECTION 1. TEXAS COMMISSION ON ASSESSMENT AND
6 ACCOUNTABILITY. (a) The Texas Commission on Assessment and
7 Accountability is established to develop and make recommendations
8 for improvements to the current public school assessment and
9 accountability systems.

10 (b) The commission is composed of 19 members, consisting of
11 the following:

12 (1) four members appointed by the governor;

13 (2) seven members appointed by the lieutenant
14 governor;

15 (3) seven members appointed by the speaker of the
16 house of representatives; and

17 (4) a member of the State Board of Education, as
18 designated by the chair of that board.

19 (c) The members appointed by the governor must have an
20 interest in public education and include at least:

21 (1) one person who is a current classroom teacher in a
22 grade and subject with a required state assessment and at least 10
23 years of teaching experience at a high-poverty campus;

24 (2) one person who is a member of the business

1 community; and

2 (3) one person who is a member of the civic community.

3 (d) The appointments made by the lieutenant governor and the
4 speaker of the house of representatives must each consist of:

5 (1) three members of the applicable legislative
6 chamber;

7 (2) a superintendent in the public school system;

8 (3) an elected member of the board of trustees of a
9 school district;

10 (4) a parent of a student in the public school system;
11 and

12 (5) a public school district staff member who serves
13 on the Accountability Technology Advisory Committee established by
14 rule.

15 (e) In making appointments under Subsections (b)(1), (2),
16 and (3), the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the
17 house of representatives shall coordinate to ensure that the
18 membership of the commission reflects, to the extent possible, the
19 ethnic and geographic diversity of this state.

20 SECTION 2. PRESIDING OFFICER AND MEMBERS. (a) The governor
21 shall designate the presiding officer of the commission.

22 (b) A member may not be an employee, contractor, consultant,
23 or vendor of the Texas Education Agency or a Regional Education
24 Service Center.

25 SECTION 3. COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT. A member of the
26 commission is not entitled to compensation for service on the
27 commission but is entitled to reimbursement for actual and

1 necessary expenses incurred in performing commission duties.

2 SECTION 4. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AND FUNDING. (a) Staff
3 members of the Texas Education Agency shall provide administrative
4 support for the commission. The agency, with assistance as
5 necessary from the Higher Education Coordinating Board, shall
6 provide data and analysis as requested by the commission, including
7 data available in the Education Research Centers.

8 (b) Funding for the administrative and operational expenses
9 of the commission shall be provided by appropriation to the agency
10 for that purpose.

11 SECTION 5. RECOMMENDATIONS. (a) The commission shall
12 develop recommendations under this subchapter to address issues
13 related to the public school statewide assessment system,
14 including:

15 (1) test construction and administration methods that
16 ensure validity, readability, and fairness for all students;

17 (2) assessment options to inform instruction
18 throughout the school year;

19 (3) any disproportionate impact of assessments on
20 students receiving each tier of the compensatory education
21 allotment and other special populations, and appropriate policy
22 responses;

23 (4) the costs and instructional time devoted to
24 state-required assessments, and options to minimize those effects
25 and combine assessments with classroom instruction; and

26 (5) privacy, security, and confidentiality protocols
27 for student information in online instruction and assessment.

1 (b) The commission shall develop recommendations under this
2 subchapter to address issues related to the public school academic
3 accountability rating system, including:

4 (1) characteristics and measures of effective schools
5 beyond state-required assessments and ways to incorporate those
6 characteristics and measures into a fairer accountability system;

7 (2) the correlation of accountability results with
8 student special populations, including educationally disadvantaged
9 and not educationally disadvantaged, for each Domain Rating and
10 Overall Rating, and the effect of enrollment in charter schools and
11 magnet or other voluntary programs on the composition of campus
12 student populations and accountability measures; and

13 (3) the appropriateness and effectiveness of current
14 district and campus sanctions and any correlation with campuses or
15 districts serving particular student populations.

16 (c) The commission shall include and consider
17 recommendations made by the existing Accountability Technical and
18 Policy Advisory Committees established by rule.

19 (b) The commission may establish one or more working groups
20 composed of not more than five members of the commission to study,
21 discuss, and address specific policy issues and recommendations to
22 refer to the commission for consideration.

23 SECTION 6. REPORT. Not later than December 31, 2022, the
24 commission shall prepare and deliver a report to the governor and
25 the legislature that recommends statutory changes to improve the
26 public school assessment and accountability systems.

27 SECTION 7. PUBLIC MEETINGS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION. (a) The

1 commission may hold public meetings as needed to fulfill its duties
2 under this subchapter.

3 (b) The commission is subject to Chapters 551 and 552,
4 Government Code.