

By: Thompson of Harris

H.B. No. 2305

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the Texas Real Estate Research Center and the Texas Real  
3 Estate Commission.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 86.51, Education Code, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 Sec. 86.51. TEXAS REAL ESTATE RESEARCH CENTER. The Texas  
8 Real Estate Research Center, [~~There~~] is established at Texas A&M  
9 University [~~a Real Estate Research Center~~], hereinafter referred to  
10 as the center. The operating budget, staffing, and activities of  
11 the center shall be approved by the board of regents of The Texas  
12 A&M University System.

13 SECTION 2. Subsections (c), (d), (e), (f), (h), (i), (j),  
14 (k), and (l), Section 86.52, Education Code, are amended to read as  
15 follows and subsection (m), Section 86.52, Education Code, is added  
16 to read as follows:

17 (c) [~~Except for the initial appointees, members~~] Members of  
18 the advisory committee hold office for staggered terms of six  
19 years, with the terms of three members expiring on January 31 of  
20 each odd-numbered year. [~~In making the initial appointments, the~~  
21 ~~governor shall designate three members, including two~~  
22 ~~representatives of the real estate industry and one representative~~  
23 ~~of the general public, for terms expiring in 1973, three for terms~~  
24 ~~expiring in 1975, and three for terms expiring in 1977.~~] Any vacancy

1 shall be filled by appointment for the unexpired portion of the  
2 term. Each member shall serve until [~~his~~] their successor is  
3 qualified.

4 (d) The chairman of the Texas Real Estate Commission, or a  
5 member of the commission designated by [~~him~~] the chairman, shall  
6 serve as an ex officio, nonvoting member of the advisory committee.

7 (e) The advisory committee shall elect a [~~presiding~~  
8 ~~officer~~] chairman and [~~an assistant presiding officer~~]  
9 vice-chairman from its membership, and each [~~officer~~] person shall  
10 serve for a term of one year.

11 (f) [~~The first meeting of the advisory committee shall be~~  
12 ~~called by the president of Texas A & M University or his designated~~  
13 ~~representative.~~] The advisory committee shall meet not less than  
14 semiannually, and in addition on call of its chairman, or on  
15 petition of any six of its members, or on call of the president of  
16 Texas A & M University or his designated representative.

17 (h) The president of Texas A & M University or [~~his~~] their  
18 designated representative shall submit to the advisory committee in  
19 advance of each fiscal year a proposed budget for expenditures of  
20 all funds provided for the center in a form that is related to the  
21 proposed schedule of activities for the review and approval of the  
22 advisory committee. The proposed budget approved by the advisory  
23 committee shall be forwarded with the comments of the advisory  
24 committee to the board of directors of The Texas A & M University  
25 System prior to its action on the proposed budget, and the board of  
26 directors of The Texas A & M University System shall not authorize  
27 any expenditure that has not had the prior approval of the advisory

1 committee.

2 (i) The president of Texas A & M University or ~~[his]~~ their  
3 designated representative shall submit to the advisory committee  
4 for its review and approval a research agenda at the beginning of  
5 each fiscal year and shall continuously inform the advisory  
6 committee of changes in its substance and scheduling.

7 (j) Each member of the ~~[board]~~ advisory committee is  
8 entitled to a per diem as set by ~~[legislative appropriation]~~ the  
9 advisory committee for each day that the member engages in the  
10 business of the ~~[board]~~ advisory committee. A member may not  
11 receive any compensation for travel expenses, including expenses  
12 for meals and lodging, other than transportation expenses. A  
13 member is entitled to compensation for transportation expenses as  
14 ~~[prescribed]~~ set by the ~~[General Appropriations Act]~~ the advisory  
15 committee.

16 (k) Except as provided by subsection (l), ~~[The]~~ the advisory  
17 committee is subject to Chapter 551, Government Code, Chapter 2001,  
18 Government Code, and the provisions of Chapter 572, Government  
19 Code.

20 (l) The advisory committee may meet by conference call or  
21 virtually through third party internet applications as long as  
22 members of the general public are able to participate in the meeting  
23 and can participate in discussions not subject to an executive  
24 session.

25 (m) The financial transactions of the center are subject to  
26 audit by the state auditor in accordance with Chapter 321,  
27 Government Code.

1 SECTION 3. Section 1101.054, Occupations Code, is amended  
2 to read as follows:

3 Sec. 1101.054. OFFICIAL OATH. Not later than the 15th  
4 calendar day after the date of appointment, each appointee must  
5 take the constitutional oath of office.

6 SECTION 4. Subsection (a), Section 1101.154, Occupations  
7 Code, is amended to read as follows:

8 Sec. 1101.154. ADDITIONAL FEE: TEXAS REAL ESTATE RESEARCH  
9 CENTER. (a) The fee for the issuance or renewal of a:

10 (1) broker license is the amount of the fee set under  
11 Section 1101.152 and an additional \$70 annual fee;

12 (2) sales agent license is the amount of the fee set  
13 under Section 1101.152 and an additional \$20 annual fee; and

14 (3) certificate of registration is the amount of the  
15 fee set under Section 1101.152 and an additional \$20 annual fee.

16 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
20 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.