

By: Lopez of Bexar

H.B. No. 428

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the creation of a task force to evaluate the housing
3 needs of senior citizens who are lesbian, gay, bisexual,
4 transgender, queer, or questioning.

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

6 SECTION 1. (a) In this section, "task force" means the task
7 force established under this section.

8 (b) The task force is established to evaluate the housing
9 needs of senior citizens who are lesbian, gay, bisexual,
10 transgender, queer, or questioning and to develop potential housing
11 solutions to address those needs and provide to those senior
12 citizens safe, affordable housing options. In conducting the
13 evaluation, the task force shall assess the evolving housing needs
14 of senior citizens who may need to transition into a long-term care
15 facility, including an assisted living facility or a nursing
16 facility.

17 (c) The task force is composed of the following 10 members:

18 (1) the chair of the LGBTQ caucus of the house of
19 representatives, to serve as presiding officer of the task force;

20 (2) three members appointed by the governor;

21 (3) three members appointed by the lieutenant
22 governor; and

23 (4) three members appointed by the speaker of the
24 house of representatives.

1 (d) In making the appointments under Subsection (c) of this
2 section, the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the
3 house of representatives shall each:

4 (1) seek input from appropriately qualified
5 organizations and stakeholders, including the Coalition for Aging
6 LGBT and Equality Texas; and

7 (2) appoint:

8 (A) an appropriately qualified individual who is
9 a representative of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer,
10 or questioning community;

11 (B) an individual with appropriate expertise on
12 issues faced by the aging population, which may be a representative
13 of the Coalition for Aging LGBT, assisted living facilities, or
14 nursing facilities; and

15 (C) an individual with appropriate expertise in
16 the area of public safety and housing, which may be a representative
17 of the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

18 (e) The governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the
19 house of representatives shall each make the appointments required
20 by Subsection (c) of this section not later than November 1, 2023.

21 (f) The task force shall meet at the call of the presiding
22 officer. The task force may meet in person or by electronic means.

23 (g) A task force member is not entitled to compensation for
24 service on the task force but may be reimbursed for actual and
25 necessary expenses incurred in performing task force duties. The
26 task force may accept gifts, grants, and donations to pay for those
27 expenses.

1 (h) Not later than September 1, 2024, the task force shall
2 prepare and submit to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the
3 legislature, and the Texas Department of Housing and Community
4 Affairs a written report summarizing the results of the evaluation
5 conducted under Subsection (b) of this section and proposing
6 potential housing solutions, including any legislative
7 recommendations.

8 (i) The task force is abolished and this Act expires
9 December 1, 2024.

10 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.