

By: Smith

H.B. No. 2741

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the duties and composition of the Specialty Courts
Advisory Council.

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

SECTION 1. Section 772.0061(a)(2), Government Code, is
amended to read as follows:

(2) "Specialty court" means:

(A) a commercially sexually exploited persons
court program established under Chapter 126 or former law;

(B) a family drug court program established under
Chapter 122 or former law;

(C) a drug court program established under
Chapter 123 or former law;

(D) a veterans treatment court program
established under Chapter 124 or former law;

(E) a mental health court program established
under Chapter 125 or former law; ~~and~~

(F) a public safety employees treatment court
program established under Chapter 129; and

(G) a juvenile family drug court program
established under Chapter 130.

SECTION 2. Sections 772.0061(b) and (c), Government Code,
are amended to read as follows:

(b) The governor shall establish the Specialty Courts

1 Advisory Council within the criminal justice division established
2 under Section 772.006 to:

3 (1) evaluate applications for grant funding for
4 specialty courts in this state and to make funding recommendations
5 to the criminal justice division; and

6 (2) make recommendations to the Texas Judicial
7 Council, the Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial
8 System, and the criminal justice division regarding best practices
9 for specialty courts established under Chapter 122, 123, 124, 125,
10 ~~[or]~~ 129, or 130, or former law.

11 (c) The council is composed of nine members appointed by the
12 governor as follows:

13 (1) four members, each of whom has ~~[one member with]~~
14 experience as the judge of at least one ~~[a]~~ specialty court
15 described by Subsection (a)(2) ~~[(a)(2)(A)]~~; and

16 (2) ~~[one member with experience as the judge of a~~
17 ~~specialty court described by Subsection (a)(2)(B),~~

18 ~~[(3) one member with experience as the judge of a~~
19 ~~specialty court described by Subsection (a)(2)(C),~~

20 ~~[(4) one member with experience as the judge of a~~
21 ~~specialty court described by Subsection (a)(2)(D), and~~

22 ~~[(5)]~~ five members who represent the public.

23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.