

By: Buckley

H.B. No. 3458

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the composition and leadership of the governing board of the Texas School for the Deaf.

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

SECTION 1. Section 30.052, Education Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (b) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) The Texas School for the Deaf is governed by an 11-member [~~a nine-member~~] board appointed by the governor in accordance with this section and confirmed by the senate. A person may not serve simultaneously on the school's governing board and the board of the Texas Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing. Except for the two public members appointed under Subdivision (4), each [~~Each~~] member of the board must be a person who is experienced in working with persons who are deaf or hard of hearing, a person who is the parent of a person who is deaf, or a person who is deaf. The board, at least six [~~five~~] of whom must be deaf, consists of:

(1) at least one person who is an alumnus of the Texas School for the Deaf;

(2) at least three persons who are parents of a deaf person; [~~and~~]

(3) at least three persons who are experienced in working with deaf persons; and

(4) two public members.

1 (a-1) The governor shall appoint the presiding officer and
2 deputy presiding officer from among the membership of the board.

3 (b) Members of the board serve for terms of six years, with
4 the terms of either three or four members expiring on January 31 of
5 each odd-numbered year.

6 SECTION 2. Promptly after this Act takes effect, the
7 governor shall appoint two public members to the governing board of
8 the Texas School for the Deaf in accordance with Section 30.052(a),
9 Education Code, as amended by this Act. In appointing those
10 members, the governor shall appoint one person to a term expiring
11 January 31, 2025, and one to a term expiring January 31, 2027.

12 SECTION 3. Section 30.052(a-1), Education Code, as added by
13 this Act, applies only to the appointment of a presiding officer and
14 deputy presiding officer of the governing board of the Texas School
15 for the Deaf for a term that begins on or after the effective date of
16 this Act.

17 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
18 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
19 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
20 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
21 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.