By: Hinojosa H.B. No. 3955

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a requirement that a public hearing be held on a proposal by the governor or the Legislative Budget Board to affect appropriations.

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

SECTION 1. Section 317.005, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a) and (b) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a) After a [~~governor's~~] proposal under this chapter is published in the Texas Register, the Legislative Budget Board shall [~~may~~] conduct a public hearing on the proposal. The board shall give notice of a hearing under this section in the manner provided by law for notice of regular meetings of the board. The board also shall provide notice by mail of its meetings to each member of the Legislature. The notice of the meeting must include a description of the nature of the proposal or order to be considered. [~~If the agenda includes a public hearing on a proposal, the notice must so state.~~]

(a-1) After a hearing under Subsection (a) and at a meeting held not less than 10 days after the date notice of the meeting was given in the manner provided for regular board meetings, in response to a [~~governor's~~] proposal by the governor, the board, subject to the restrictions provided by Subsection (e), may:

(1) ratify the proposal by adopting an order changing

the relevant appropriation in the manner specified in the proposal;

(2) reject the proposal; or

(3) recommend changes in the proposal.

(b) After a hearing under Subsection (a), in [~~In~~] response to a proposal by the board, the governor may take any action specified by Subsection (a-1) [~~(a)~~] for board action on a [~~governor's~~] proposal by the governor.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to a proposal under Chapter 317, Government Code, made on or after the effective date of this Act. A proposal under Chapter 317, Government Code, made before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect when the proposal was made, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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