

By: Tepper

H.B. No. 312

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the eligibility of a person who is not a United States citizen to be appointed to or serve in a public office or on an advisory board or task force.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 601, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 601.012 to read as follows:

Sec. 601.012. CITIZENSHIP REQUIRED FOR CERTAIN APPOINTMENTS. (a) A person must be a United States citizen to be appointed to or serve in a public office, including on the governing body of a commission, board, or other agency, or on an advisory board or task force:

(1) within the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of state government; or

(2) of a political subdivision of this state.

(b) Subsection (a) does not apply to an office for which the federal or state constitution prescribes exclusive qualification requirements.

SECTION 2. Section 601.012, Government Code, as added by this Act, applies to an appointment that occurs on or after September 1, 2025.

SECTION 3. The term of office of a person who is not a United States citizen who was appointed before September 1, 2025, to serve in a position that is subject to Section 601.012, Government Code,

1 as added by this Act, ends September 1, 2025, unless the person  
2 becomes a United States citizen on or before that date.

3 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
4 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
5 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
6 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
7 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.