

1-1 By: Taylor of Galveston, et al. S.B. No. 16
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed July 19, 2017; July 20, 2017, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Education; July 22, 2017,
 1-4 reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 11, Nays 0;
 1-5 July 22, 2017, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			
1-18	X			

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to the creation of a commission to recommend improvements
 1-22 to the public school finance system.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Chapter 42, Education Code, is amended by adding
 1-25 Subchapter L to read as follows:

1-26 SUBCHAPTER L. TEXAS COMMISSION ON PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE

1-27 Sec. 42.601. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "commission"
 1-28 means the Texas Commission on Public School Finance.

1-29 Sec. 42.602. TEXAS COMMISSION ON PUBLIC SCHOOL FINANCE.

1-30 (a) The Texas Commission on Public School Finance is established
 1-31 to develop and make recommendations for improvements to the current
 1-32 public school finance system or for new methods of financing public
 1-33 schools.

1-34 (b) The commission is composed of 13 members, consisting of
 1-35 the following:

1-36 (1) four members appointed by the governor;

1-37 (2) four members appointed by the lieutenant governor;

1-38 (3) four members appointed by the speaker of the house
 1-39 of representatives; and

1-40 (4) a member of the State Board of Education, as
 1-41 designated by the chair of that board.

1-42 (c) The members appointed by the governor must have an
 1-43 interest in public education and must include at least one member of
 1-44 the business community and at least one member of the civic
 1-45 community.

1-46 (d) The appointments made by the lieutenant governor and the
 1-47 speaker of the house of representatives must each consist of:

1-48 (1) three members of the applicable legislative
 1-49 chamber; and

1-50 (2) an administrator in the public school system or an
 1-51 elected member of the board of trustees of a school district.

1-52 Sec. 42.603. PRESIDING OFFICER. The governor shall
 1-53 designate the presiding officer of the commission.

1-54 Sec. 42.604. COMPENSATION AND REIMBURSEMENT. A member of
 1-55 the commission is not entitled to compensation for service on the
 1-56 commission but is entitled to reimbursement for actual and
 1-57 necessary expenses incurred in performing commission duties.

1-58 Sec. 42.605. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT AND FUNDING.

1-59 (a) Staff members of the agency shall provide administrative
 1-60 support for the commission.

1-61 (b) Funding for the administrative and operational expenses

2-1 of the commission shall be provided by appropriation to the agency
2-2 for that purpose.

2-3 Sec. 42.606. RECOMMENDATIONS. (a) The commission shall
2-4 develop recommendations under this subchapter to address issues
2-5 related to the public school finance system, including:

2-6 (1) the purpose of the public school finance system
2-7 and the relationship between state and local funding in that
2-8 system;

2-9 (2) the appropriate levels of local maintenance and
2-10 operations and interest and sinking fund tax effort necessary to
2-11 implement a public school finance system that complies with the
2-12 requirements under the Texas Constitution; and

2-13 (3) policy changes to the public school finance system
2-14 necessary to adjust for student demographics and the geographic
2-15 diversity in the state.

2-16 (b) The commission may establish one or more working groups
2-17 composed of not more than five members of the commission to study,
2-18 discuss, and address specific policy issues and recommendations to
2-19 refer to the commission for consideration.

2-20 Sec. 42.607. REPORT. Not later than December 31, 2018, the
2-21 commission shall prepare and deliver a report to the governor and
2-22 the legislature that recommends statutory changes to improve the
2-23 public school finance system, including any adjustments to funding
2-24 to account for student demographics.

2-25 Sec. 42.608. PUBLIC MEETINGS AND PUBLIC INFORMATION.

2-26 (a) The commission may hold public meetings as needed to fulfill
2-27 its duties under this subchapter.

2-28 (b) The commission is subject to Chapters 551 and 552,
2-29 Government Code.

2-30 Sec. 42.609. COMMISSION ABOLISHED; EXPIRATION OF
2-31 SUBCHAPTER. (a) The commission is abolished January 8, 2019.

2-32 (b) This subchapter expires January 8, 2019.

2-33 SECTION 2. Not later than the 30th day after the effective
2-34 date of this Act, the appropriate persons shall make the
2-35 appointments and designations required by Section 42.602,
2-36 Education Code, as added by this Act.

2-37 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-38 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-39 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-40 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-41 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the
2-42 legislative session.

2-43 * * * * *