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             (Senate Sponsor - Taylor)
(In the Senate - Received from the House April 26, 2021;
       May 6, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Veteran
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       Affairs & Border Security; May 19, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 19, 2021, sent to printer.)
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                                       COMMITTEE VOTE
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                                                           Absent
                                                                          PNV
                                       Yea
                                                 Nay
               Campbell
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                                        Χ
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               Hall
                                        Χ
               Blanco
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               Eckhardt
                                        X
               Gutierrez
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                                        Χ
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               Seliger
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               Taylor
                                    A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
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                                            AN ACT
       relating to the eligibility of certain 17-year-old persons to serve
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       as members of the Texas State Guard.
               BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
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       SECTION 1. Section 437.302, Government Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (d) to read as
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       follows:
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               (b)
                     To serve in the Texas State Guard, a person:
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                     (1) must be a resident of this state for at least 180
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       days;
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                     (2) must be a citizen of the United States or a person
       who has been lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.
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       Section 1101 et seq.);
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                     (3) subject to <u>Subsections</u> [<u>Subsection</u>] (c) <u>and (d)</u>,
       must be at least 17 [18] years of age and not older than 70 years of
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       age;
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                           must undergo a criminal history check;
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                      (5)
                           must not be a registered sex offender; and
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                           must be acceptable to and approved by the governor
                     (6)
       or adjutant general under the governor's direction.

(d) A person who is at least 17 years of age but younger than
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       18 years of age may serve in the Texas State Guard if the person:
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                      (1) is emancipated by marriage, court order, or other
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       operation of law; or
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       (2) provides to the adjutant general, in a form an manner prescribed by the adjutant general, the written consent of:
                                                                       in a form and
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                            (A)
                                  each of the person's parents or legal
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       guardians, other than a parent or legal guardian who is:
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                                   (i) deceased;
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                                   (ii)
                                          determined
                                                          bу
                                                                     court to
                                                                a
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       incapacitated;
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                                   (iii) absent at an unknown location for an
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       indefinite period; or
       (iv) confined in jail or prison serving a term of punishment that will result in the parent or guardian being released after the person's 18th birthday; or
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                            (B) for a person who
                                                                   in
                                                                        the
                                                                              managing
       conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services
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       or another legal entity, a representative of the department or
       other legal entity.
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H.B. No. 1062

Bell of Montgomery, Guillen

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SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.