

SUBJECT: Modifying board membership for Trinity Valley Community College

COMMITTEE: Higher Education — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 8 ayes — Lozano, Raney, Alonzo, Alvarado, Clardy, Howard, Morrison, Turner
0 nays
1 absent — Button

SENATE VOTE: On final passage, March 22 — 29-0

WITNESSES: No public hearing

DIGEST: SB 286 would authorize the governing board of the Trinity Valley Community College District by order or resolution to increase the number of governing board members to 11.

The order or resolution would have to create transition terms of office to conform with elections being held in even-numbered years with staggered six-year terms. Initial board members would be required to draw lots to determine their terms, with five members serving two-year terms, three members serving four-year terms, and three members serving six-year terms.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017.

SUPPORTERS SAY: SB 286 would allow the governing board of the Trinity Valley Community College (TVCC) District to increase its membership from nine to 11 members. This would allow representation for new school districts that could join TVCC's taxing district through an annexation election. It could encourage independent school districts to join the TVCC community, reduce in-district tuition and fees for those students, and provide more opportunities for high school students to enroll in dual-credit courses.

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OPPONENTS
SAY: No apparent opposition.

NOTES: A companion bill, HB 1062 by Gooden, was approved by the House on April 5.