



AGENDA

BOARD GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

**July 10, 2025
1:30 PM**

3100 Main Street, 2nd Floor Auditorium, Houston, Texas 77002

**NOTICE OF A MEETING OF THE
Board Governance Committee
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

HOUSTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE

July 10, 2025

Notice is hereby given that a Meeting of the Board Governance Committee of the Board of Trustees of Houston Community College will be held on Thursday, July 10, 2025 at 1:30 PM, or after, and from day to day as required, 3100 Main Street, 2nd Floor Auditorium, Houston, Texas 77002. The items listed in this Notice may be considered in any order at the discretion of the Committee Chair and items listed for closed session discussion may be discussed in open session and vice versa as permitted by law. Actions taken at this Meeting do not constitute final Board action and are only Committee recommendations to be considered by the Board at the next Regular Board meeting.

I. Call to Order

- A. Opportunity for Public Comments

II. Topics For Discussion and/or Action:

- A. Revised Policy for Faculty Senate - Senate Bill 37

III. Adjournment to closed or executive session pursuant to Texas Government Code Sections 551.071; 551.072 and 551.074, the Open Meetings Act, for the following purposes:

A. Legal Matters

Consultation with legal counsel concerning pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or matters on which the attorney's duty to the System under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Laws.

B. Personnel Matters

Deliberate the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer, employee or board member to hear complaints or changes against an officer, employee or board member unless the officer, employee or board member who is the subject of the deliberation or hearing requests a public hearing.

C. Real Estate Matters

Deliberate the purchase, exchange, lease, or value of real property for Agenda items if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the System in negotiations with a third person.

IV. Additional Closed or Executive Session Authority:

If, during the course of the meeting covered by this Notice, the Board should determine that a closed or executive meeting or session of the Board should be held

or is required in relation to any items included in this Notice, then such closed or executive meeting or session as authorized by Section 551.001 et seq. of the Texas Government Code (the Open Meetings Act) will be held by the Board at that date, hour and place given in this Notice or as soon after the commencement of the meeting covered by the Notice as the Board may conveniently meet in such closed or executive meeting or session concerning:

Section 551.071 - For the purpose of a private consultation with the Board's attorney about pending or contemplated litigation, a settlement offer, or matters on which the attorney's duty to the System under the Texas Disciplinary Rules of Professional Conduct clearly conflicts with the Texas Open Meetings Laws.

Section 551.072 - For the purpose of discussing the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the governmental body in negotiations with a third person.

Section 551.073 - For the purpose of considering a negotiated contract for a prospective gift or donation to the System if deliberation in an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the position of the System in negotiations with a third person.

Section 551.074 - For the purpose of considering the appointment, employment, evaluation, reassignment, duties, discipline or dismissal of a public officer, employee or board member to hear complaints or changes against an officer, employee or board member unless the officer, employee or board member who is the subject of the deliberation or hearing requests a public hearing.

Section 551.076 - To consider the deployment, or specific occasions for implementation of security personnel or devices, or a security audit.

Section 551.082 - For the purpose of considering discipline of a student or to hear a complaint by an employee against another employee if the complaint or charge directly results in a need for a hearing, unless an open hearing is requested in writing by a parent or guardian of the student or by the employee against whom the complaint is brought.

Section 551.084 - For the purpose of excluding a witness or witnesses in an investigation from a hearing during examination of another witness in the investigation. Should any final action, final decision, or final vote be required in the opinion of the Board with regard to any matter considered in such closed or executive meeting or session, then such final action, final decision, or final vote shall be at either:

A. The open meeting covered by this Notice upon the reconvening of the public meeting, or

B. At a subsequent public meeting of the Board upon notice thereof, as the Board shall determine.

V. Reconvene in Open Meeting

VI. Adjournment

CERTIFICATE OF POSTING OR GIVING NOTICE

On this **3rd day of July 2025**, this Notice was posted at a place convenient to the public and readily accessible at all times to the general public at the following locations: (1) the HCC Administration Building of the Houston Community College, 3100 Main, First Floor, Houston, Texas 77002 and (2) the Houston Community College's website: www.hccs.edu.

Posted By:

Sharon R. Wright
Director, Board Services

REPORT ITEM

Meeting Date: July 10, 2025

Topics For Discussion and/or Action:

ITEM #	ITEM TITLE	PRESENTER
A.	Revised Policy for Faculty Senate - Senate Bill 37	Dr. Margaret Ford Fisher Dr. Norma Perez Dr. Remmele J. Young Dr. Nicole Montgomery

DISCUSSION

Faculty Senate Establishment under Senate Bill 37 and review BGC policy revisions with certain delegated tasks to the Chancellor.

COMPELLING REASON AND BACKGROUND

Senate Bill 37 designates the governing board as the sole authority to establish and regulate faculty senates. Prior to establishing a faculty senate, the Board must adopt a policy governing the selection of members.

Houston Community College must revise its local policy to align with the requirements of Texas Education Code §51.3552. The legislation mandates that the faculty senate be an advisory body only, prohibits compensation for service, imposes term limits, and requires detailed procedures for member selection and officer appointments.

To ensure compliance by the September 1, 2025, deadline, it is recommended that the current faculty senate be reconstituted under the revised policy framework and slated for approval by the Chancellor. The reconstitution addresses the Chancellor’s delegation authority to appoint the presiding officer, associate presiding officer, and secretary. Additionally, current faculty governance documents will require significant revisions to ensure compliance with the bill.

STRATEGIC ALIGNMENT

1. Student Success, 5. College of Choice

ATTACHMENTS:

Description	Upload Date	Type
Presentation - SB 37 Report Governance of Public Institutions of Higher Education	7/3/2025	Presentation
DRAFT BGC(LOCAL) 7.3.25	7/3/2025	Attachment

This item is applicable to the following: District



SB 37 Report Governance of Public Institutions of Higher Education

July 10, 2025

Dr. Margaret Ford Fisher, Chancellor

Remmele J. Young, J.D., Vice Chancellor



Discussion Topic

*SB 37 relating to governance of
public institutions of higher education*

KEY BILL TRACK

[HB 4499](#) (Shaheen)

Relating to the governance of public institutions of higher education, including review of curriculum and certain degree and certificate programs, the powers and duties of a faculty council or senate.

Status:

Introduced and referred to committee on House Higher Education.
April 3, 2025*

[SB 37](#) (Creighton)

Relating to the governance of public institutions of higher education, including review of curriculum and certain degree and certificate programs, the powers and duties of a faculty council or senate.

Status:

Signed the Governor.
September 1, 2025.*

* Key bill tracking status is current as of June 23, 2025.

SB 37—SUBSTITUTE CHANGES OVERVIEW

Curriculum Reform

- Governing boards may appoint a committee to assist with general education curriculum review.
- Provides specific language about what is allowable in general education curriculum.
- Establishes a THECB core curriculum committee to redefine foundational components and make recommendations to taper down required SCH or core curriculum.
- Creates framework for THECB to make ROI and manageable debt of degree programs to recommend to governing boards.
- Reduces requirements that institutions inventory courses **from 5 to 2 years**.

Governing Board Authority

- Presidents review major admin positions and report recommendations to governing board.
- Governing board has discretionary authority over all hiring decisions made by member institutions.

Faculty/Faculty Senates/Council

- Tenure not required to serve.
- Generally, limits number of members to **60 with clear term limits** for appointed /elected members.
- Official duties are to advise administration – any published report or statement outside purview is prohibited.
- Clarifies faculty may not be involved in decision-making of faculty grievance process.

Office of Excellence in Higher Ed

- Renames/establishes Office of Ombudsman under THECB.
- Cites specific state law subject to reports of non-compliance.
- Strengthens requirements for submission of report of non-compliance.
- Provides **25-day** resolution for institutions before further investigation + turnover to AG.
- Gives AG authority to ensure compliance is met following failure to meet compliance during the resolution period.

Source: Senate Research Center, Bill Analysis of SB 37 (by Creighton), June 6, 2025 (Enrolled).

SB 37—GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM HIGHLIGHTS

Sec. 51.315 Review

- Requires governing board of an IHE to conduct a comprehensive review of the general education curriculum established by the institution at least **once every five years**.
- Requires governing board to ensure courses in the curriculum meet certain general education curriculum requirements.
- Requires governing board of an institution of higher education (“IHE”) to consider potential cost the curriculum may impose on students to completion (e.g., tuition, fees, and time).

Sec. 51.315 Review

- Authorizes governing board to reserve the right to overturn any decision made by the institution regarding changes to the general education curriculum.
- Authorizes governing board to appoint a committee to assist in carrying out its duties.

Sec. 51.315 Review

- Authorized members of committee include faculty employed full-time by the institution, institution administrators, community leaders, industry representatives, and other individuals selected by the governing board.
- Requires the governing board of each IHE to certify its compliance with the THECB and each standing committee with primary jurisdiction over higher education.

Source: Senate Research Center, Bill Analysis of SB 37 (by Creighton), June 6, 2025 (Enrolled).

SB 37—INSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY AND MINOR DEGREE & CERTIFICATION CHANGES

Institutional Authority & Responsibility

- Final decision-making authority regarding the IHE degree programs and curricula belongs to the institution.
- Requires institution to make the decision on those matters under the direction of the institution's governing board.

Minor Degree & Certificate Changes

- Requires president or chief executive officer (“ceo”) of the IHE to adopt and implement a process for reviewing minor degree and certificate programs offered by the IHE – identify programs with low enrollment that may require either consolidation or elimination.
- Review of criteria requires that minor degree and certificate (“cert”) programs have specific industry data to substantiate workforce demand to avoid consolidation or elimination.

Minor Degree & Certificate Changes

- If a minor degree or cert program has **operated less than five years** at the time the president or ceo of the IHE conducts a review, the minor degree or cert is exempt from that review.
- Requires governing board of an IHE to approve/deny any decision made by the president or ceo of IHE to consolidate or eliminate a minor degree or cert program due to the review conducted.

Minor Degree & Certificate Changes

- Requires president or ceo of an IHE to conduct a review **once ever five years**.

Source: Senate Research Center, Bill Analysis of SB 37 (by Creighton), June 6, 2025 (Enrolled).

SB 37—GENERAL EDUCATION CURRICULUM ADVISORY COMMITTEE & SECTION 106

General Education Curriculum Advisory Committee

- Requires THECB to establish an advisory committee to review the general education curriculum requirements of an IHE.
- Requires THECB to call for nomination from presidents or ceos, chancellors and chief academic officers at all IHEs for representation to serve on the advisory committee.
- Requires the THECB to select a number of representatives determined by the THECB from those nominated with nominees drawn equally from two-year and four-year institutions.

General Education Curriculum Advisory Committee

- Requires the advisory committee to consider methods for determining general education curriculum component courses and for condensing the number of general education curriculum courses required at IHE.
- Advisory committee shall produce a report regarding its findings and recommendations to the THECB not later than **November 1, 2026**.
- Requires the THECB to review the advisory committee's report and submit to the legislature the THECB's recommendation for legislative or other action necessary to implement the findings of the report **not later than December 31, 2026**.

General Education Curriculum Advisory Committee

- Provides that the advisory committee is abolished and Section 61.0552: General Education Curriculum Advisory Committee expires **September 1, 2027**.
- Requires governing board of IHE to approve/deny any decision made by the president or ceo of IHE to consolidate or eliminate a minor degree or cert program due to the review conducted.

Sec. 106

- Requires the governing board of each public IHE to complete the governing board's initial review pursuant to Sec. 51.315, not later than **January 1, 2027**, and **certify compliance with Sect. 51.315, Education Code.***

*"As amended by SB 37, focuses on the review and oversight of core curricular in Texas IHE. In part, seeks to ensure the core curriculum remains foundational and relevant."

Source: Senate Research Center, Bill Analysis of SB 37 (by Creighton), June 6, 2025 (Enrolled).

SB 37—INSTITUTIONAL GOVERNANCE (ARTICLE 2)

Institutional Governance

- Requires the governing board, notwithstanding powers and duties specifically granted, to take certain actions, including approving or denying the hiring of an individual for the position of provost or deputy, associate, or assistant provost by each institution under the board's control and management and collaborating to set campus admission standards consistent with the role and mission of the institution and considering admission standards of similar institutions nationwide having a like role and mission, as determined by the THECB.

Institutional Governance

- Authorizes governing board of an IHE to overturn any hiring decision for vice president or dean made by the administration of a campus under THECB's control and management.
- Requires that action by the governing board ... be implemented by institution through appropriate action to the relevant hiring decision at issue, including rescission of employment offer, termination of employment or an employment agreement.

Institutional Governance

- Requires the governing board of each IHE to annually submit to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house, and each member of the legislature a report about decisions made by the governing board for the applicable academic year on any hiring of administration in which THECB approved or denied the hiring decision or took action under Subsection 2.01 (g).

Source: Senate Research Center, Bill Analysis of SB 37 (by Creighton), June 6, 2025 (Enrolled).

SB 37 — FACULTY COUNCIL OR SENATE (#1)

Institutional Governance

- Only the governing board of an IHE is authorized to establish a faculty council or senate at the institution.
- Requires the governing board, before establishing the faculty council or senate, to adopt a policy governing the selection of the faculty council's or senate's members [which] meet certain requirements.
- **Requirements:** Ensure adequate representation of each college and school of institution; must be faculty members; limits the number of members to not more than 60 with at least two from each college or school, including one member appointed by the president/ceo, and remaining members elected by vote of faculty of respective college or school. See Section 51.3522.

Institutional Governance

- Faculty council or senate is advisory only and prohibited from being delegated the final decision-making authority on any matter.
- Requires a faculty council or senate to represent the entire faculty of the IHE and advise the institution administration and any system administration about matters related to the general welfare of the institution.

Institutional Governance

- Prohibits faculty council or senate from issuing any statement or publishing report using the institution's official seal, trademark, or resources funded by the institution on any matter not directly related to the council's or senate's duties to advise the institution administration.
- Services for faculty council or senate is an additional duty of the faculty member's employment + not entitled to either compensation or reimbursement of expenses for role as members of faculty council or senate, **unless** expense is on behalf of institution and approved by the IHE.

Institutional Governance

- Member of faculty council or senate appointed by president or ceo of the IHE* is authorized to serve up to six consecutive one-year terms and then authorized to reappointment after the second anniversary of the last day of member's most recent term.
- A member of the faculty council or senate elected by a vote of the faculty of the member's respective college or school serves a two-year term, staggered in a manner that allows approximately one-half of the elected members to be elected each year, and authorized to only be re-elected after the second anniversary of the last day of the member's most recent term.

*See Section. 51.3522 (e).

Source: Senate Research Center, Bill Analysis of SB 37 (by Creighton), June 6, 2025 (Enrolled).

SB 37 — FACULTY COUNCIL OR SENATE (#2)

Institutional Governance

- Authorizes a faculty member serving on the faculty council or senate to be immediately removed from the council or senate for failing to conduct the member's responsibilities within council's or senate's parameters, failing to attend meetings, or engaging in other similar misconduct.
- Authorizes member of a faculty council or senate to be removed on recommendation of the institution's provost and approval by the institution's president or ceo.

Institutional Governance

- Requires president or ceo of IHE to appoint a presiding officer, associate presiding officer, and secretary from the members of the faculty council or senate.
- Requires the presiding officer appointed to preside over meetings of the faculty council or senate and represent the council or senate in official communications with the institution's administration and any system administration.

Note: Chapter 2101 (State Agency Advisory Committees), Govt. Code, does not apply to a faculty council or senate.

Institutional Governance

- Requires faculty council or senate to conduct meetings at which a quorum is present in a manner that is open to the public and in accordance with procedures prescribed by the president or ceo of the IHE.
- Requires faculty council or senate to broadcast over the Internet live video and audio, as applicable, of each open meeting of the council or senate if more than 50 percent of the members of the council or senate are in attendance.
- Requires faculty council or senate to adopt rules for establishing a quorum.

Institutional Governance

- Requires that certain information is available to the public on the IHE Internet website not later than the seventh day before a meeting of the faculty council or senate.
- Requires that the names of the members in attendance be recorded at meeting in which faculty council or senate conducts business related to a vote of no confidence regarding an institution or system administrator or policies related to curriculum and academic standards.
- Prohibits this section from being construed to limit a faculty member of an IHE from exercising right to freedom of association under U.S. Constitution.

Source: Senate Research Center, Bill Analysis of SB 37 (by Creighton), June 6, 2025 (Enrolled).

SB 37—SHARED GOVERNANCE & RESPONSIBILITY OF PRESIDENT OR CEO

Shared Governance

- Requires IHE in Texas to be governed by “shared governance.”*
- Prohibits the principle of shared governance from being construed to diminish the authority of the governing board to make final decisions in the best interest of the institution, students, and taxpayers.

Shared Governance

- Requires administrators at IHE to make decisions in a manner that promote efficiency, accountability, and responsiveness to state priorities, workforce needs, and the institution’s institutional mission.
- Authorizes faculty and staff to provide recommendations on academic matters, but input is only advisory in nature, ensuring that governing boards and institutional leadership retain clear and ultimate authority.
- Prohibits shared governance structures from being used to obstruct, delay, or undermine necessary institutional reforms or serve as a mechanism for advancing ideological or political agendas.

Responsibility of President or CEO

- Requires president or ceo of IHE to conduct annual evaluations for individuals who hold the positions of vice president, provost, dean, or a similar leadership position that oversees curriculum or student affairs for the institution and report to the institution’s governing board any decision to remove an individual from a position. Section 51.3541.

* A structured decision-making process in which the governing board exercises ultimate authority and responsibility for oversight, financial stewardship and policy implementation, while allowing appropriate consultation with faculty, administrators, and other stakeholders related to academic policy and instructional operations.

Source: Senate Research Center, Bill Analysis of SB 37 (by Creighton), June 6, 2025 (Enrolled).

SB 37—EXECUTIVE SEARCH COMMITTEE & GRIEVANCE, HIRING, DISCIPLINE * DECISION-MAKING

Executive Search Committee

- Redefines “executive search committee” and defines “institution of higher education” and “other agency of higher education.” Quoting Subsection (a).*
- Requires that the membership of an executive search committee for a president or ceo of an IHE include at least two members of the institution’s governing board with at least one of those members as the chair. Quoting Subsection (c).*

Decision-Making Authority

- Provides that only the president or ceo or provost of an IHE, university system administration, or the president’s or ceo’s, provost’s or administration’s designee is authorized to be involved in decision-making regarding review of a faculty grievance ... or the faculty discipline process.**

Decision-Making +Hiring Authority

- Prohibits a faculty member of an IHE who does not serve in an administrative leadership position from having decision-making authority on the hiring of an individual for any faculty or administrative position at the institution.

*Section 2.03. Amends Section 51.913, Education Code, by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (c).

**Section 2.04 Amends Subchapter Z, Chapter 51, Education Code, by adding Section 51.9431.

Source: Senate Research Center, Bill Analysis of SB 37 (by Creighton), June 6, 2025 (Enrolled).

SB 37—COORDINATION & OVERSIGHT OF THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN (“OOO”) – (ARTICLE 3) # 1

Office of Ombudsman	Office of Ombudsman	Office of Ombudsman	Office of Ombudsman
<ul style="list-style-type: none">Requires the THECB to establish the THECB Office of the Ombudsman (“OOO”) to serve as an intermediary between the legislature and the public and IHE.Requires the OOO to perform the functions described herein and coordinate THECB’s compliance monitoring.*Requires the Ombudsman to serve as the director of compliance and monitoring.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Requires the governor, with the advice and consent of the senate, to appoint a person to serve as ombudsman who shall serve at the pleasure of the governor.Requires OOO to receive and, if necessary, investigate complaints regarding an IHE’s failure to comply with certain provisions of the Education Code.Authorizes a student or faculty or staff member at an IHE who has reason to believe an IHE failed to comply to submit a written complaint to the OOO that includes certain information.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Provides that an individual is ineligible to file a complaint if individual filed with another state agency, federal agency, or a court.Requires the OOO to dismiss any complaint that the office determines was filed in violation of (d-1).**Requires an individual who knowingly submits a false complaint to be held responsible for any costs incurred by the OOO investigating [and] resulting from a false complaint.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">Authorizes the OOO to refuse to investigate a future complaint filed by an individual who is found to have knowingly filed a false complaint.Requires the OOO to maintain a file on each written complaint filed with the THECB.Requires that the file contain certain information, including the name of the individual, rather than the person, who filed the complaint.Requires the OOO to provide a copy of the complaint to the person filing the complaint and each person alleged to be involved in the failure to comply.

* Section 61.035 (Compliance Monitoring).
** By way of example, filing a lawsuit before another [trier of fact] that makes the same or similar allegations or rises out of the same factual situation or administrative complaint.

Source: Senate Research Center, Bill Analysis of SB 37 (by Creighton), June 6, 2025 (Enrolled).

SB 37—COORDINATION & OVERSIGHT OF THE OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN— (ARTICLE 3) # 2

Office of Ombudsman

- Requires OOO to notify the governing board of the IHE that is the subject of a complaint not later than the **5th day** after the date the office receives the complaint.
- Requires the governing board of the IHE to respond to the complaint not later than the **175th day** after the date the governing board receives the notice, unless the OOO grants an extension for good cause
- Authorizes the OOO investigating the complaint to request information from the IHE not later than the **30th day** after the date the institution receives the request, subject to privileged information.

Office of Ombudsman

- Requires the OOO to submit to the governing board of the IHE a report on the investigation that includes the office's final determination regarding the investigation and recommendations, based on the conclusions.
- If the OOO determines the governing board of an IHE has not resolved noncompliance issues by the **180th day** after the submission of the report, the office shall submit to the ombudsman and state auditor a report on the noncompliance that includes the office 's recommendations.

Office of Ombudsman

- Authorizes the ombudsman, on receipt of a report, to recommend to the legislature that the IHE not be allowed to spend money appropriated to the institution for a state fiscal year until the institution's governing board certifies compliance and the state auditor confirms the institution's compliance.
- Authorizes the office to issue a civil investigative demand in the same manner as the prescribed by Civil Investigative Authority, Civil Remedies and Enforcement related to Racketeering and Unlawful Debt Collection, Civil Practice and Remedies Code ... and requires cooperation from an IHE in an investigation if office finds a compliant is credible.

Office of Ombudsman

- Requires the OOO to annually submit a report to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the state auditor, and the chair of each standing legislative committee with jurisdiction over higher education regarding certain subjects.

Source: Senate Research Center, Bill Analysis of SB 37 (by Creighton), June 6, 2025 (Enrolled).

SB 37 — AMENDED SECTIONS 61.0512(c) & 61.084

Section 61.0512(c), As Amended

- Requires THECB to review each degree or certificate program offered by an IHE at the time the institution request to implement a new program to ensure that the program meets certain criteria, including meeting a national need or is needed by the state and the local community, and does not unnecessarily duplicate programs by other IHE or private or independent IHE.

Section 61.084, As Amended

- Requires that topics covered by the training program on the official role and duties of the members of governing board include:
- (1)-(8) no changes.
- (9) no changes.
- (10) an overview of the legislature, the General Appropriations Act., and state budget as those topics relate to the responsibilities of the governing board.
- (11) an emphasis on the commitment the members of the governing board are making to the IHE under THECB's control and mgmt. and, if applicable, the university system, this state, and taxpayers of this state; and

Section 61.084, As Amended

- (12) creates this subdivision from existing text and makes no further changes.
- Requires a member of the governing board, on completion of a training program under this section, to provide a sworn statement affirming the member's understanding of the member's duties and responsibilities.

Source: Senate Research Center, Bill Analysis of SB 37 (by Creighton), June 6, 2025 (Enrolled).

SB 37—APPLICABILITY & EFFECTIVE DATE (ARTICLE 4)

Applicability; Effective Date

- Except as provided by Subsection (b), this Act applies beginning **January 1, 2026**.
- [Subsection] (b) provides that a faculty council or senate established at a public IHE before the effective date of this Act is **abolished on September 1, 2025, unless** established in a manner prescribed by Section 51.3522 Education Code; or
- The faculty council's or senate's continuation is ratified by the institution's governing board before that date **(September 1, 2025)**, based on a finding by the governing board that the faculty council and senate meets the requirements of any policy adopted by the governing board under that section.

Applicability; Effective Date

- Provides that a faculty council or senate authorized but not yet established at a public IHE before the effective date of this Act is authorized to be established only in the manner prescribed by Section 51.3522.

Applicability; Effective Date

- Section 4.02. Effective date: **September 1, 2025.**

Source: Senate Research Center, Bill Analysis of SB 37 (by Creighton), June 6, 2025 (Enrolled).

Questions/ Discussion



Thank you

ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION PLAN
COUNCILS AND FACULTY SENATES

BGC
(LOCAL)

In order to provide the most effective operation of the College District and to maintain open communication ~~and decision-making~~ opportunities, the Board ~~recognizes the following~~ encourages input from employee organizations as follows:

~~The~~

1. One faculty senate, ~~the~~ staff councils, the College Office Personnel Association (COPA), and other non-faculty employee groups shall have the right to gather for the purpose of discussing issues and concerns of particular importance to the individual groups.
2. The faculty senate and other recognized employee organizations shall have a written ~~constitution~~ constitutions and an elected or appointed ~~leader or~~ leaders who will facilitate the work of the component group and serve as the communications link with the administration.

~~Since~~

3. Governance of the faculty senate ~~represents~~ shall comply with legal requirements and Board policy.
4. The recognized employee ~~interests, this organization shall or~~ organizations are advisory in nature and do not have a ~~representative on the Chancellor's executive team.~~ final decision-making authority in College District matters.
5. The Chancellor shall ensure that ~~various~~ non-faculty employee groups are appropriately represented on advisory committees.

Faculty Senate

The faculty senate represents the entire faculty and its interests. The chair of the faculty senate, as appointed by the Chancellor, shall serve on the Chancellor's executive team in a solely advisory capacity regarding matters related to the general welfare of the College District. The faculty senate is prohibited from issuing any statement or publishing any report using the College District's resources, trademark or official seal unless directly related to the faculty senate's duty to advise the administration.

Eligibility, Selection,
and Term

Faculty senate members shall be elected in the number and manner defined by the Chancellor or designee. The election process shall ensure adequate representation of faculty across the College District based on instructional division. Faculty senate members shall serve for a two-year term and may be re-elected only after two years have passed since the expiration of the preceding term. Terms shall be staggered in such a manner that half expire each year.

ADMINISTRATIVE ORGANIZATION PLAN
COUNCILS AND FACULTY SENATES

BGC
(LOCAL)

	<p>Only actively employed full-time or part-time faculty are eligible for election and service on the faculty senate. Failure to have current job duties other than service on the faculty senate is an automatic forfeiture of the faculty member's position on the faculty senate.</p>
Officers	<p>The Chancellor shall appoint the chair, vice chair, and secretary from the elected senate members. The chair is responsible for representing the faculty council in official communications with the College District.</p>
Remuneration	<p>Service on the faculty senate is a non-compensable additional duty of employment. Expenses incurred on behalf of the College District may be reimbursed as approved by the College District. Expenses incurred on behalf of the faculty senate are not reimbursable.</p>
Removal	<p>Upon recommendation by the Chief Academic Officer, the Chancellor may immediately remove a faculty senate member for failure to attend meetings, failure to exercise responsibilities in accordance with defined legal and policy parameters, and other similar misconduct.</p>
Meeting Requirements	<p>Meetings of the faculty senate must be open to the public. If more than 50% of members are present, the meetings must be broadcast live over the Internet. An agenda and any curriculum proposals to be discussed or voted on must be made public on the College District's website at least seven days before a meeting. Meeting minutes must reflect the names of the members in attendance if, during the course of the meeting, a vote of no confidence regarding an administrator or business related to curriculum and academic standards takes place.</p>