

AMENDED IN SENATE MARCH 26, 2025

SENATE BILL

No. 702

Introduced by Senator Limón
(Coauthor: Senator Gonzalez)
(Coauthor: Assembly Member Ward)

February 21, 2025

An act to add Sections 1305 and 1306 to the Government Code, relating to state government.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 702, as amended, Limón. Legislative and gubernatorial appointments: report.

Existing law establishes various boards and commissions in state government with specified duties and responsibilities. Existing law generally provides for legislative oversight of state board formation, which includes, among other things, any administrative or regulatory board, commission, and committee, whose members are appointed by the Governor, the Legislature, or both. Existing law requires the Governor to appoint every officer whose mode of appointment is not prescribed by law.

This bill would require the office of the Governor, commencing January 1, 2027, to maintain on its internet website a list of each state board and commission and the membership list, stated purpose, duties, meeting frequency, internet website, and vacancies in the membership for each board or commission. The bill would require the office of the Governor, on or before January 1, 2028, and annually on January 1 thereafter, to create and publish on its internet website a report containing aggregate demographic information, as defined, of

appointments made by the office during the prior calendar year, as specified.

The bill would require the Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Clerk of the Assembly, on or before January 1, 2028, and annually on January 1 thereafter, to publish on their respective internet websites aggregate demographic information, as defined, on their respective legislative appointments, made during the prior calendar year, as specified. The bill would require the aggregate demographic information to only include legislative appointments created by statute, and prohibit the information from including ex officio appointments of members of the Legislature. The bill would require any organization or individual that utilizes or republishes the above-described aggregate demographic information on legislative appointments to provide a specified disclaimer.

The bill would require the above-described published aggregate demographic information on gubernatorial or legislative appointments to be published on the respective entity's internet websites in a prescribed manner for purposes of ensuring the anonymity of the appointed individuals.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 1305 is added to the Government Code,
- 2 immediately following Section 1304, to read:
- 3 1305. (a) Commencing January 1, 2027, the office of the
- 4 Governor shall maintain on its internet website a list of each state
- 5 board or commission, as well as the board or commission's
- 6 membership list, stated purpose, duties, meeting frequency, internet
- 7 website, and any vacancies in its membership.
- 8 (b) (1) On or before January 1, 2028, and each January 1
- 9 thereafter, the office of the Governor shall create and publish on
- 10 its internet website a report that contains aggregate demographic
- 11 information, to the extent available, of appointments by the office
- 12 of the Governor from January 1 to December 31, inclusive, of the
- 13 previous year.
- 14 (2) The aggregate demographic information shall be published
- 15 in a manner that does not disclose any personal information and
- 16 ensures the anonymity of the appointed individuals.

1 (c) For purposes of this section, “demographic information”
2 includes, but is not limited to, the voluntarily self-reported
3 ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability
4 status, ~~region~~, *county of residence*, ~~party affiliation~~ *affiliation*, and
5 military service of the appointed individuals.

6 SEC. 2. Section 1306 is added to the Government Code,
7 immediately following Section 1305, to read:

8 1306. (a) On or before January 31, 2028, and annually
9 thereafter, the Secretary of the Senate and the Chief Clerk of the
10 Assembly shall publish on their respective internet websites
11 aggregate demographic information on the respective legislative
12 appointments of each house, made from January 1 to December
13 31, inclusive, of the previous calendar year.

14 (b) The aggregate demographic information shall only include
15 legislative appointments created by statute, and shall not include
16 ex officio appointments of members of the Legislature.

17 (c) The aggregate demographic information shall be published
18 in a manner that does not disclose any personal information and
19 ensures the anonymity of the appointed individuals.

20 (d) Any organization or individual that utilizes or republishes
21 the aggregate demographic information shall provide the following
22 disclaimer, “Reporting of demographic information by appointed
23 individuals is not required. Therefore, this information only
24 includes voluntarily reported data and does not accurately reflect
25 the demographics of all legislative appointments.”

26 (e) For purposes of this section, “demographic information”
27 includes, but is not limited to, the voluntarily self-reported
28 ethnicity, gender, gender identity, sexual orientation, disability
29 status, ~~region~~, *county of residence*, and military service of the
30 appointed individuals.