

# Senate Bill 702

Gubernatorial Boards &  
Commissions Act



**MONIQUE LIMÓN**  
REPRESENTING SENATE DISTRICT 19

## THIS BILL

SB 702 requires the Office of the Governor, on or before August 1, 2022, and annually thereafter, to report to the Legislature, aggregate demographic information of individuals appointed by the Governor and those who applied and were not appointed. The bill also requires the report to be published on the website of the Office of the Governor. Additionally, SB702 requires the office of the Governor to convene, on or before March 1, 2022, a working group to discuss and make recommendation son the most effective way to ensure the state’s leadership on boards and commissions reflects the diversity in race, gender identity, class, region, and creed, among other things that are representative of the state. SB702 requires these recommendations to be completed and delivered to the Legislature no later than December 1, 2022. For purposes of this bill, “demographic information” shall mean the ethnicity, gender, disability status, veteran status and sexual orientation of the appointed individual to the extent that the individual agrees to disclose such information.

## BACKGROUND

In 2014, Illinois enacted the Gubernatorial Boards and Commissions Act to provide transparency in statewide appointments as it relates to race, gender ethnicity and sexual orientation. The annual report has been a critical tool in ensuring that stakeholder perspective in state government is diverse and reflective of the communities served.

Mandated by state law, the Judicial Council of California is obliged to collect and release aggregate demographic data relative to the gender, race/ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, veteran and disability status of California state court

justices and judges, by specific jurisdiction each calendar year.

Recent legislation such as AB 979 (Holden, Chapter 316, 2020) and SB 826 (Jackson, Chapter 954, 2018) ensure corporate board gender and racial diversity. SB 826 requires publicly held corporations, located in California, to have a minimum of one female serving on its board of directors. AB 979 requires corporations to have a minimum of one director from an underrepresented community. By the end of 2022, a corporation with more than 4 but fewer than 9 directors is required to have a minimum of 2 directors from underrepresented communities, and such a corporation with 9 or more directors to have a minimum of 3 directors from underrepresented communities. California has an expressed commitment to ensuring state boards and commissions are diverse and reflective of the state, yet no formal mechanisms exist to evaluate this for Gubernatorial Boards and Commissions Appointees.

## PURPOSE

To ensure California leadership reflects its greater population, the collection of gubernatorial appointee’s demographic data is a critical step to achieving gender, racial and ethnic equity in California’s boards and commissions. This annual report will serve as a tool to shed light where inequities in representation exist, encourage outreach to communities of interest, and address any system barriers. Increasing the diversity of California's board and commission members will reflect the rich diversity of California's population, creating a stronger state and more equitable communities.

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## SUPPORT

Hispanas Organized for Political Equality (HOPE)  
Association of California State Employees with  
Disabilities (ACSED)

## STAFF CONTACT

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<https://www2.illinois.gov/sites/bac/Documents/2020%20Boards%20and%20Commissions%20Act%20Report%2010.1.2020.pdf>

