

SUBJECT: Reassigning responsibilities of the Child Care Development Board

COMMITTEE: State Affairs — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 12 ayes — Wolens, S. Turner, Bailey, Counts, Craddick, Danburg, Hunter, D. Jones, Longoria, Marchant, McCall, McClendon

0 nays

3 absent — Brimer, Hilbert, Merritt

SENATE VOTE: On final passage, April 20 — 30-0, on Local and Uncontested Calendar

WITNESSES: None

BACKGROUND: Government Code, ch. 663 establishes guidelines for child care services for state employees. The Child Care Development Board is responsible for developing and administering child care services for state employees. The board is composed of the governor, the lieutenant governor, the attorney general, the comptroller, and the commissioner of the General Land Office. The board must appoint a child care advisory committee.

The General Services Commission (GSC) establishes child care facilities at the direction of the board by acquiring or renovating property, making contracts, and implementing plans for the facilities.

DIGEST: SB 1496 would reassign responsibility for child care services for state employees from the Child Care Development Board to GSC. The bill would strike references to the board throughout Government Code, ch. 663 and replace them with references to the commission.

GSC could appoint to the child care advisory committee two representatives of nonprofit organizations that dealt with child care services. Representatives from the United Way of Texas and the Texas Association for the Education of Young Children no longer would have to be appointed to the advisory committee.

SB 1496 would delete provisions relating to:

- ! the composition, staff, equipment, and supplies of the board;
- ! the board specifying actions and implementation schedules to the commission;
- ! the board requiring or prohibiting specific provisions in a lease to a child care provider;
- ! the commission providing the board with a list of potential sites for facilities; and
- ! the requirement of and a time limit for issuing a notice to the board of a state building that includes a child care facility.

This bill would take effect September 1, 2001, and would not affect the validity of any action taken by the board before the effective date.

**SUPPORTERS
SAY:**

The Child Care Development Board was created to develop and administer child care programs for state employees, but now that its mission has been achieved, it is no longer needed. GSC already has child care responsibilities for state agencies, so transferring the board's oversight role would create no extra workload. The bill would retain an advisory committee to offer guidance on location, size, design, and curriculum for state child care facilities.

**OPPONENTS
SAY:**

No apparent opposition.