

SUBJECT: Adding members to the Drug Demand Reduction Advisory Committee

COMMITTEE: Public Health — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 5 ayes — Laubenberg, Truitt, Dawson, Taylor, Zedler
0 nays
4 absent — Capelo, Coleman, McReynolds, Naishtat

SENATE VOTE: On final passage, April 28 — 31-0

WITNESSES: None

BACKGROUND: Health and Safety Code, sec. 461.017 establishes the Drug Demand Reduction Advisory Committee. The committee serves as a single source of information about issues relating to reducing demand for drugs and must develop a statewide strategy to reduce drug demand. The 20-member committee includes five representatives of the public and 15 representatives of state agencies.

DIGEST: SB 616 would add five representatives to the Drug Demand Reduction Advisory Committee: one each from the Texas Rehabilitation Commission, Texas Workforce Commission, Texas Department of Transportation, the Comptroller's Office, and the Adjutant General's Department. In addition, the committee's statewide strategy would have to include coordinated efforts with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

The bill would take immediate effect if finally passed by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of each house. Otherwise, it would take effect September 1, 2003.