

**SUBJECT:** Transfer of 2.195 acres in Huntsville from TDCJ to Forest Service

**COMMITTEE:** Land and Resource Management — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 8 ayes — Bonnen, Alvarado, Bolton, Hamilton, Homer, Orr, Paxton, Thibaut

0 nays

1 absent — Farrar

**WITNESSES:** None

**BACKGROUND:** Since 1988, the Texas Forest Service has been leasing, for a nominal fee, 2.195 acres in Huntsville from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). The Forest Service uses the location as a regional office.

**DIGEST:** HB 4438 would require that the Texas Department of Criminal Justice transfer to the Texas Forest Service, 2.195 acres in the city of Huntsville. The Forest Service would be required to use the property only for a purpose that benefits the public interest of Texas. If the Forest Service used the property for any other purpose, ownership automatically would revert to TDCJ .

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, 2009.