

- SUBJECT:** Posting meeting notices of joint airport boards electronically
- COMMITTEE:** Transportation — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 12 ayes — Pickett, Martinez, Burkett, Y. Davis, Fletcher, Harless, Israel, McClendon, Murr, Paddie, Phillips, Simmons
- 0 nays
- WITNESSES:** For — (*Registered, but did not testify:* Brandon Steinmann and James Crites, DFW International Airport; Kelley Shannon, Freedom of Information Foundation of Texas; Michael Schneider, Texas Association of Broadcasters)
- Against — None
- BACKGROUND:** Transportation Code, sec. 22.074 enables multiple local governments to form joint boards to administer airports and other air navigation facilities. The joint board has the authority to plan, acquire, establish, construct, improve, equip, maintain, operate, regulate, protect, and police an airport or other facility under its purview.
- Government Code, ch. 551 contains provisions related to open meetings requirements. Sec. 551.001 provides a definition for a governmental body, which includes county commissioners courts, school boards, and city councils. Sec. 551.056 requires governmental bodies that maintain websites to post their meeting notices online.
- Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport (DFW) is administered by a joint board created under Transportation Code, sec. 22.074. Joint boards created by this statute are not included in the definition of governmental body in Government Code, sec. 551.001. Because of this exclusion, DFW's joint board is not covered by the electronic posting provisions of ch. 551.
- DIGEST:** HB 1913 would amend Government Code, ch. 551 to require joint boards

created under Transportation Code, sec. 22.074 to post notice of meetings on their website. The bill also would include joint boards in the definition of governmental bodies under ch. 551.

HB 1913 would add a subsection to ch. 551 requiring airport joint boards to post notices of meetings on a physical or electronic bulletin board in a place visible to the public at their administrative offices.

This 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, 2015. The bill would apply only to notice that was required to be posted on or after the effective date.