

SUBJECT: Nonsubstantive recodification of statutes in various codes

COMMITTEE: State Affairs — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 12 ayes — Cook, Giddings, Craddick, Farrar, Guillen, K. King, Kuempel, Meyer, Oliveira, Paddie, E. Rodriguez, Smithee

0 nays

1 absent — Geren

SENATE VOTE: On final passage, April 19 — 31-0, on Local and Uncontested Calendar

WITNESSES: *On House companion bill, HB 3502:*
For — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Thomas Parkinson)

Against — None

On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Maria Breitschopf, Texas Legislative Council)

BACKGROUND: Government Code, sec. 323.007 requires the Texas Legislative Council to revise Texas statutes periodically to make them more accessible, understandable, and usable without altering their sense, meaning, or effect. As part of this process, the Legislative Council reorganizes the statutes in topical codes; eliminates repealed, invalid, duplicative, and other ineffective provisions; and improves the draftsmanship of the law.

DIGEST: SB 1488 would make nonsubstantive revisions to various codes by correcting references and terminology, conforming other laws to the codes, and codifying existing laws as new provisions in the codes. It would provide for appropriate disposition of various statutes that were omitted from enacted codes and renumber or otherwise redesignate duplicative titles, chapters, and sections of codes.

The repeal of a statute by the bill would not affect an amendment,

revision, or reenactment of the statute by the 85th Legislature. If any provision of the bill conflicted with a statute enacted by the 85th Legislature, the statute would control.

SB 1488 would adjust the following codes:

- Agriculture Code;
- Business and Commerce Code;
- Business Organizations Code;
- Civil Practice and Remedies Code;
- Code of Criminal Procedure;
- Education Code;
- Election Code;
- Family Code;
- Government Code;
- Health and Safety Code;
- Insurance Code;
- Labor Code;
- Local Government Code;
- Natural Resources Code;
- Occupations Code;
- Penal Code;
- Property Code;
- Tax Code;
- Transportation Code;
- Water Code; and
- disposition of certain civil statutes.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2017.

NOTES:

A companion bill, HB 3502 by Landgraf, was left pending following a public hearing in the House State Affairs Committee on May 3.