

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

C.S.S.B. 1930
By: Ratliff
Finance
4-29-97
Committee Report (Substituted)

DIGEST

Currently, the Red River Army Depot is scheduled to close under the Federal Base and Closure Act (BRAC). Shortly after the BRAC announcement, officials from the city of Texarkana and Bowie County created the Red River Local Redevelopment Authority (authority) to develop a plan to turn the depot into a business and industrial park. However, the U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) has indicated that it considers the authority as a planning body only. C.S.S.B. 1930 sets forth provisions to allow the authority to accept title to the land and property of the Red River Army Depot from DOD and continue to use the former depot as an economic development for all of northeast Texas.

PURPOSE

As proposed, C.S.S.B. 1930 establishes the Red River Redevelopment Authority as an authority of the State of Texas for the purpose of accepting title from the United States to all or any portion of the excess personal and real property situated within the Red River Army Depot.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. DEFINITIONS. Defines "authority," "board," "county," "cities," "property," and "eligible project."

SECTION 2. ESTABLISHMENT. Provides that the Red River Redevelopment Authority (authority) of the State of Texas with boundaries coterminous with the boundaries of the real property described in SECTION 4 of this Act, on adoption of resolutions by both the cities and the county authorizing the authority's establishment and each appointing members to the board as outlined in SECTION 3 of this Act.

SECTION 3. BOARD. Provides that the board consists of 15 members and is responsible for the management, operation, and control of the authority. Sets forth the composition of the board. Sets forth provisions regarding member terms, board vacancies, board elections, and quorum. Authorizes the board to adopt rules to govern its proceedings and to employ and compensate persons to carry out the powers and duties of the authority. Authorizes a board member to be recalled at any time by the appointing official.

SECTION 4. PURPOSE. Provides that the authority is created to perform certain functions including accepting title from the United States under certain conditions, promoting the location and development of new businesses and industries on certain property, and undertaking eligible projects.

SECTION 5. POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE AUTHORITY. Provides that the authority created under this Act is hereby granted, has, and may exercise all powers necessary or appropriate to carry out, achieve, or effectuate the purpose of this Act, including, without limitation, certain powers.

SECTION 6. EXEMPTION FROM TAXATION. Provides that the properties, revenues, and income of the authority are exempt from all taxes levied by the state or a political subdivision of the

state.

SECTION 7. DISSOLUTION. Authorizes the authority to be dissolved by the board on approval of the cities and county after all debts or obligations have been duly satisfied or retired with such assets of the authority to be conveyed or transferred to the county. Provides that it is the intention of the legislature that the authority be dissolved after conveyance and sale of all of the property with the approval of the cities and county governing bodies.

SECTION 8. SUCCESSOR. Provides that the authority is the successor in interest to the Red River Local Redevelopment Authority, a planning authority organized under the county and recognized by the United States Department of the Army, and shall succeed to all rights and liabilities of the Red River Redevelopment Authority.

SECTION 9. Severability clause.

SECTION 10. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES

Amends the relating clause.

SECTION 1.

Defines "eligible project."

SECTION 4.

Sets forth two new purposes for which the authority was created including promoting the location and development of new businesses and industries on certain property and undertaking eligible projects.

SECTION 5.

Adds certain powers to the list of proposed powers granted to the authority including the power to exercise those powers granted to general law districts in Chapter 49, Water Code, and to municipal utility districts in Chapter 54, Water Code, to the road utility districts in Chapter 441, Transportation Code, and to municipalities and counties in Chapter 271C, Local Government Code.