

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 2114
By: Danburg (Ellis)
Intergovernmental Relations
5/13/1999
Engrossed

DIGEST

The 75th Legislature passed H.B. 92 to give counties and municipalities the authority to create sports and community venue districts to provide for the planning, acquisition, establishment, development, construction, or renovation of a venue project under certain conditions. H.B. 92 also subjects the sports and community venue districts to the Open Meetings Act, Chapter 551, Government Code. An appeals court has ruled that a sports and community venue district's board or its committees can hold closed meetings if no deliberations, which require a verbal exchange, occur at the meetings. H.B. 2114 would require a sports and community venue district's board or committee to be subject to the Open Meetings Act, whether or not deliberations occur.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 2114 requires a sports and community venue district's board or committee to be subject to the Open Meetings Act, whether or not deliberations occur.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 335.023, Local Government Code, by adding Subsections (c) and (d), to provide that, notwithstanding Section 551.001, Government Code, a board or a committee of a board of a sports and community venue district (board or committee) is considered to be meeting for purposes of Chapter 551, Government Code, without regard to whether there is a deliberation between a quorum or between a quorum and another person, if certain conditions exist, and if a committee of a board is considered to be a governmental body for purposes of Chapter 551, Government Code, without regard to whether the committee has rulemaking or quasi-judicial power, or functions only in an advisory capacity. Provides that Section 551.075, Government Code, does not apply to a meeting of a board or committee.

SECTION 2. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.