

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
76R7518 GJH-D

S.B. 1280  
By: Wentworth  
State Affairs  
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As Filed

### **DIGEST**

Currently, Texas lottery commissioners are prohibited from discussing the negotiation of the lottery operator contract except during a properly posted open meeting. This eliminates the opportunity to plan and discuss strategy aside from that which occurs in the presence of the person against whom negotiations are being conducted. The Open Meetings Act dates back to a time when there was no expectation that government operations, such as the Texas Lottery, would evolve into a public-private enterprise transacting approximately \$250 million per biennium. S.B. 1280 limits the application of the Open Meetings Act for certain negotiations involving the Texas Lottery Commission.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, S.B. 1280 limits the application of a law placing requirements on closed meetings, if an open meeting would negatively affect the Texas Lottery Commission's position in negotiations.

### **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 467.030, Government Code, to limit the requirements of Section 551.002, Government Code in certain circumstances in which an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the Texas Lottery Commission's position in negotiations with a lottery operator. Makes a conforming change.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1999.