

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
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C.S.S.B. 1280
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State Affairs
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Committee Report (Substituted)

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. C.S.S.B. 1280 limits the application of the Open Meetings Act for certain negotiations involving the Texas Lottery Commission.

PURPOSE

As proposed, C.S.S.B. 1280 limits the application of a law 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 application of Section 551.002, Government Code, in circumstances wherein an open meeting would have a detrimental effect on the Texas Lottery Commission's position concerning negotiations with a lottery operator. Makes a conforming change.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES

SECTION 1.

Amends Section 467.030(b), Government Code, to limit the application of, rather than the requirements of, Section 551.002, Government Code, regarding a closed meeting of the Texas Lottery Commission, rather than a closed meeting between the commission and a lottery operator.