

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
77R12782 BDH-D

H.B. 2061
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Administration
5/9/2001
Engrossed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

There has been much controversy across the nation regarding symbols of American history that are located on government property. Currently, in the state of Texas, there is no historical representation advisory committee that ensures the diverse history of this state is accurately represented in the Capitol Complex and on other land owned by the state. H.B. 2061 establishes a historical representation advisory committee.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 443, Government Code, by adding Section 443.0081, as follows:

Sec. 443.0081. HISTORICAL REPRESENTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE. (a) Requires the historical representation advisory committee (advisory committee), in order to ensure that the diverse history of Texas is accurately represented in the Capitol Complex and on other land owned by the state, to provide guidance to the State Preservation Board (board), the Texas Historical Commission, and the General Services Commission on the addition of monuments to the Capitol Complex and other land owned by the state.

(b) Provides that the advisory committee consists of 12 certain members.

(c) Requires the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives, in making appointments under this section, to attempt to include African American Texans, Hispanic American Texans, Native American Texans, female Texans, and Texans exemplifying rural heritage.

(d) Requires the governor to designate the presiding officer of the committee from among the members of the committee. Provides that the presiding officer serves a term of two years. Requires the presiding officer to serve as the liaison between the committee and the General Services Commission.

(e) Provides that a member of the advisory committee serves at the pleasure of the appointing officer and serves without compensation or reimbursement of expenses.

(f) Requires the advisory committee to conduct meetings the committee considers necessary to provide guidance under this section. Requires the board to provide necessary administrative support to the advisory committee.

(g) Requires the advisory committee to develop its own bylaws under which it is required to operate.

- (h) Provides that Chapter 2110 does not apply to the advisory committee.
- (i) Provides that the advisory committee is subject to the open meetings law, Chapter 551.
- (j) Provides that the advisory committee is subject to Chapter 325 (Texas Sunset Act). Provides that the advisory committee is abolished September 1, 2013, unless continued in existence as provided by that chapter.
- (k) Sets forth a list of required duties that are to be performed by the advisory committee.
- (l) Defines “monument.”

SECTION 2. Requires the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives to make appointments to the historical representation advisory committee under Section 443.0081, Government Code, as added by this Act, not later than January 1, 2002.

SECTION 3. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2001.