

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
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S.B. 304
By: Lucio
State Affairs
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DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, the State Aircraft Pooling Board (SAPB), created by the 66th Legislature in 1979 to operate a pool for aircraft owned or leased by the state, provides air transportation services to state officials and employees traveling on official state business and provides ground services for aircraft owned by the state. The SAPB provides cost-effective travel and a flexible schedule; however, it is operating an aging fleet that is not large enough to meet increasing demands. Moreover, it is not providing updated travel information. As proposed, S.B. 304, in accordance with the recommendations of the Sunset Advisory Commission (commission), requires the SAPB to keep track of complaints; provide information on the State Employee Incentive Program; develop a long-range plan for its aircraft usage and needs; maintain an updated website posting information related to travel and other services provided by the SAPB; and continues the agency for another 12 years.

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 2205A, Government Code, by adding new Sections 2205.017 and 2205.018 and by redesignating existing Section 2205.017 as Section 2205.019, as follows:

Sec. 2205.017. INFORMATION ON COMPLAINTS. Requires the State Aircraft Pooling Board (board) to maintain a file on each written complaint filed with the board. Requires the file to include certain stated items. Requires the board to provide to the person filing the complaint and to each person who is a subject of the complaint a copy of the board's policies and procedures relating to complaint investigation and resolution. Requires the board, at least quarterly until final disposition of the complaint, to notify the person filing the complaint and each person who is a subject of the complaint of the status of the investigation unless the notice would jeopardize an undercover investigation.

Sec. 2205.018. STATE EMPLOYEE INCENTIVE PROGRAM. Requires the executive director or the director's designee to provide to employees of the board information and training on the benefits and methods of participation in the State Employee Incentive Program.

Sec. 2205.019. Provides that the State Aircraft Pooling Board is abolished unless continued in existence as provided by Chapter 325 (Texas Sunset Act), and this chapter expires September 1, 2013.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 2205.032, Government Code, by adding Subsection (c), as follows:

(c) Requires the board, as part of the strategic plan that the board develops and submits under Chapter 2056 (Strategic Plans of Operation), to develop a long-range plan for its pool of aircraft. Requires the board to include appropriate portions of the

long-range plan in its legislative appropriations request. Requires the plan to include certain estimates. Requires the board, in developing the plan, to consider certain stated factors for each aircraft in the pool.

SECTION 3. Amends Chapter 2205B, Government Code, by adding Section 2205.047, as follows:

Sec. 2205.047. INFORMATION POSTED ON THE INTERNET. Requires the board to post information related to travel and other services provided by the board on an Internet site maintained by or for the board. Requires the site to be generally accessible to state agencies, persons who use the board's services, and, to the extent appropriate, the general public.

SECTION 4. Effective date: September 1, 2001.