

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
85R5170 AAF-F

S.B. 1522
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Transportation
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As Filed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

The Texas Aviation Advisory Committee (AAC) provides input to the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) on its aviation development programs and serves as its representative among aviation users. AAC members also work with members of the Texas Legislature on various aviation issues. Section 21.003, Transportation Code, provides that AAC consists of six members appointed by the Texas Transportation Commission (TTC). However, TTC and AAC feel that six members does not adequately represent the Texas aviation community. It is the opinion of TTC that AAC could enhance its effectiveness and increase the diversity of input with additional members from the general aviation population, while also representing a greater portion of the state's aviation community.

Additionally, TTC already has the authority to appoint more than six members to the Public Transportation Advisory Committee, with nine members, and the Port Authority Advisory Committee, with seven members. TTC also has the statutory authority to set the number of members on the Border Trade Advisory Committee. Allowing TTC to appoint more members to AAC, then, would bring AAC in line with how the membership of other TxDOT advisory committees are determined and appointed.

Therefore, S.B. 1522 seeks to remedy these issues by allowing TTC to set the number of members of AAC. Currently AAC has only six members, but S.B. 1522 would allow TTC to add more members to the board as it sees fit. The bill also requires that the minimum number of members of AAC remain at six. S.B. 1522 resolves both the representation and organizational issues introduced above.

As proposed, S.B. 1522 amends current law relating to the composition of the aviation advisory committee.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

Rulemaking authority is expressly granted to the Texas Transportation Commission in SECTION 1 (Section 21.003, Transportation Code) of this bill.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 21.003(a), Transportation Code, as follows:

- (a) Provides that the Texas Aviation Advisory Committee (AAC) consists of members, rather than six members, appointed by the Texas Transportation Commission (TTC) to advise TTC and the Texas Department of Transportation on aviation matters. Requires TCC, by rule, to determine the number of members of the AAC, provided that AAC is required to be composed of at least six members.

SECTION 2. Requires TTC, not later than September 1, 2018, to adopt the rules required by Section 21.003(a), Transportation Code, as amended by this Act.

SECTION 3. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2017.