

1-1 By: Whitmire S.B. No. 29  
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed July 3, 2003; July 3, 2003, read  
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Government Organization;  
1-4 July 14, 2003, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 6,  
1-5 Nays 0; July 14, 2003, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to creating a Legislative Policy Council to perform policy  
1-9 analysis and related empirical analysis and research.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Subtitle C, Title 3, Government Code, is amended  
1-12 by adding Chapter 331 to read as follows:

1-13 CHAPTER 331. LEGISLATIVE POLICY COUNCIL

1-14 Sec. 331.001. LEGISLATIVE POLICY COUNCIL. The Legislative  
1-15 Policy Council is an agency in the legislative branch of state  
1-16 government.

1-17 Sec. 331.002. MEMBERSHIP. (a) The council is composed of  
1-18 the lieutenant governor, four members of the senate appointed by  
1-19 the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of  
1-20 representatives, and four members of the house of representatives  
1-21 appointed by the speaker.

1-22 (b) The lieutenant governor is the chairman of the council  
1-23 and the speaker of the house of representatives is the vice  
1-24 chairman.

1-25 Sec. 331.003. QUORUM; MEETINGS. (a) A majority of the  
1-26 members of the council from each house constitutes a quorum to  
1-27 transact business.

1-28 (b) The council shall meet at the call of the chairman or on  
1-29 written petition of a majority of the members of the council from  
1-30 each house.

1-31 (c) The council shall meet in Austin, except that if a  
1-32 majority of the members of the council from each house agree, the  
1-33 council may meet in any location determined by the council.

1-34 (d) Each member of the legislature is entitled to attend and  
1-35 present the member's views in any meeting of the council. A  
1-36 legislator who is not a member of the council may not vote.

1-37 Sec. 331.004. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR; PERSONNEL. (a) The  
1-38 council may employ an executive director.

1-39 (b) The executive director, with the approval of the  
1-40 council, may employ necessary personnel.

1-41 Sec. 331.005. COUNCIL EXPENDITURES; SALARIES. (a) The  
1-42 amount of allowable expenditures for the council is determined by  
1-43 legislative appropriation.

1-44 (b) The council shall determine the salaries of its  
1-45 employees.

1-46 Sec. 331.006. GIFTS AND GRANTS. (a) The council may  
1-47 accept gifts, grants, and donations from any organization described  
1-48 in Section 501(c)(3), Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended,  
1-49 for the purpose of funding any activity under this chapter.

1-50 (b) All gifts, grants, and donations must be accepted in an  
1-51 open meeting by a majority of the voting members of the council and  
1-52 reported in the minutes of the council meeting with the name of the  
1-53 donor and purpose of the gift, grant, or donation.

1-54 Sec. 331.007. DUTIES. The council staff shall perform  
1-55 policy analysis and related empirical analysis and research at the  
1-56 direction of the council regarding issues and matters identified by  
1-57 the council that may affect state revenue or appropriations or that  
1-58 may be the subject of legislation or proposed amendments to the  
1-59 Texas Constitution.

1-60 Sec. 331.008. AGENCY COOPERATION. Each state agency in any  
1-61 branch of state government shall cooperate with the council in  
1-62 providing the council with the information the council requires to  
1-63 perform its duties.

1-64 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

2-1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2-2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
2-3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
2-4 Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the  
2-5 legislative session.

2-6

\* \* \* \* \*