

Amend SB 409 by inserting the following appropriately numbered sections and renumbering subsequent sections appropriately:

(1) Section \_\_\_\_\_. Section 201.003, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Subsections (d) and (e) to read as follows:

(d) A reference in law to the commissioner of transportation means the chair of the commission.

(e) A reference in law to a member of the commission means a commissioner.

(2) SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 201.053, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 201.053. CHAIR OF THE COMMISSION [~~COMMISSIONER OF TRANSPORTATION~~]. (a) The governor periodically shall designate one commissioner [~~member of the commission~~] as the chair of the commission [~~commissioner of transportation~~], who shall serve as presiding officer of the commission.

(b) The chair [~~commissioner~~] shall:

(1) preside over commission meetings, make rulings on motions and points of order, and determine the order of business;

(2) [~~(1)~~] represent the department in dealing with the governor;

(3) [~~(2)~~] report to the governor on the state of affairs of the department at least quarterly;

(4) [~~(3)~~] report to the commission the governor's suggestions for department operations;

(5) [~~(4)~~] report to the governor on efforts, including legislative requirements, to maximize the efficiency of department operations through the use of private enterprise;

(6) [~~(5)~~] periodically review the department's organizational structure and submit recommendations for structural changes to the governor, the commission, and the Legislative Budget Board;

(7) [~~(6)~~] designate one or more employees of the department as a civil rights division of the department and receive regular reports from the division on the department's efforts to comply with civil rights legislation and administrative rules; [~~and~~]

(8) create subcommittees, appoint commissioners to subcommittees, and receive the reports of subcommittees to the commission as a whole;

(9) appoint a commissioner to act in the chair's absence; and

(10) [(7)] serve as the departmental liaison with the governor and the Office of State-Federal Relations to maximize federal funding for transportation [highway, ~~public transportation, and aviation purposes~~].

(3) SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 201.054, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 201.054. COMMISSION MEETINGS. The commission shall hold regular meetings at least once a month and special meetings at the call of the chair [~~commissioner of transportation or as provided by commission rule~~]. Commissioners [~~Commission members~~] shall attend the meetings of the commission. The chair shall oversee the preparation of an agenda for each meeting and ensure that a copy is provided to each commissioner at least seven days before the meeting.

(4) SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Chapter 201, Transportation Code, is amended to add Section 201.0545 to read as follows:

Sec. 201.0545. RECOMMENDATIONS TO LEGISLATURE. (a) The commission shall consider ways in which the department's operations may be improved and may periodically report to the legislature concerning potential statutory changes that would improve the operation of the department.

(b) On behalf of the commission, the chair shall report to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the House of Representatives, and the presiding officers of relevant legislative committees on legislative recommendations adopted by the commission and relating to the operation of the department.

(5) SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Section 201.057, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 201.057. GROUNDS FOR REMOVAL. (a) It is a ground for removal from the commission if a commissioner [~~member~~]:

(1) does not have at the time of appointment or maintain during service on the commission the qualifications

required by Section 201.051;

(2) violates a prohibition provided by Section 201.051;

(3) cannot discharge the commissioner's [~~member's~~] duties for a substantial part of the term for which the commissioner [~~member~~] is appointed because of illness or disability; or

(4) is absent from more than half of the regularly scheduled commission meetings that the commissioner [~~member~~] is eligible to attend during a calendar year, unless the absence is excused by majority vote of the commission.

(b) The validity of an action of the commission is not affected by the fact that it is taken when a ground for removal of a commissioner [~~commission member~~] exists.

(c) If the director knows that a potential ground for removal exists, the director shall notify the chair of the commission [~~commissioner of transportation~~] of the ground, and the chair [~~commissioner~~] shall notify the governor and the attorney general that a potential ground for removal exists. If the potential ground for removal relates to the chair [~~commissioner of transportation~~], the director shall notify another commissioner [~~member of the commission~~], who shall notify the governor and the attorney general that a potential ground for removal exists.

(6) SECTION \_\_\_\_\_. Subsection (c), Section 202.057, Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) The commission may execute a necessary deed, conveyance, or agreement, to be signed by the chair of the commission [~~commissioner of transportation~~] as provided by commission order, for flood control purposes under this section.