

BILL ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 3305
By: Berman
Appropriations
Committee Report (Substituted)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Due to the current budget shortfall, state agencies and institutions of higher education were asked to prioritize spending based on core functions and essential services. The committee looked to these priorities in preparation of the budget; however, certain statutory changes are also needed to conform with appropriations levels in the 2004-05 General Appropriations Act. Committee Substitute House Bill 3305 authorizes these statutory changes for the public safety and criminal justice agencies listed under Article V of the 2004-05 General Appropriations Act.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that rulemaking authority expressly granted to the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission is modified in SECTION 3 (Section 5.50(b), Alcoholic Beverage Code) of this substitute.

ANALYSIS

Committee Substitute House Bill 3305 amends the Government Code to provide that certain sections of Chapter 2102 do not apply to the Criminal Justice Policy Council.

Committee Substitute House Bill 3305 directs the Adjutant General's Department to reduce expenditures by optimizing federal funding and implementing cost-saving measures.

Committee Substitute House Bill 3305 amends the Alcoholic Beverage Code by deleting language that requires surcharges collected by the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission to be set at a level that would make the total amount of collected surcharges plus fees equal to the appropriation to the commission for the regulation of alcoholic beverages.

Committee Substitute House Bill 3305 amends the Human Resources Code by changing from 19 to 18 the age at which a person is transferred from custody of the Texas Youth Commission to the pardons and paroles division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to serve the remainder of the person's sentence.

EFFECTIVE DATE

Upon passage, or, if the Act does not receive the necessary vote, the Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL TO SUBSTITUTE

Committee Substitute House Bill 3305 modifies the original by adding language that amends the Human Resources Code by changing from 19 to 18 the age at which a person is transferred from custody of the Texas Youth Commission to the pardons and paroles division of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to serve the remainder of the person's sentence.

Committee Substitute House Bill 3305 modifies the original by removing language that authorizes the

legislature to reduce or eliminate statutory amounts going to Article V state agencies if necessary to balance the budget.