

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

S.B. 1237  
By: Uresti  
Defense Affairs & State-Federal Relations  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Current statute authorizes the creation of defense base authorities for the purpose of redeveloping military facilities impacted by the federal Base Realignment and Closure process.

SB1237 authorizes a defense base development authority, established for the purpose of redeveloping military facilities impacted by the federal base realignment and closure, to establish and operate an inland port and related port facilities to engage in world trade and enter into agreements enhancing world trade. The bill resolves minor conflicts in the language of the statute governing an authority's exercise of eminent domain, and further restricts the use of such power in order to ensure that it is used only in connection with projects meeting the statutory purposes of the authority.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

SB 1237 amends the Local Government Code to allow an authority to establish and operate an inland port and related port facilities to engage in world trade, and enter into agreements advancing world trade.

SB 1237 amends the Local Government Code to clarify that an authority may exercise eminent domain within the base property or in an area surrounding the base property only as provided in Chapter 21, Property Code, and makes conforming changes.

Further, SB 1237 amends the Local Government Code to allow an exception to Chapter 551, Government Code, and other law, to allow members of a board or committee of the authority to participate in a public meeting of the authority by telephone conference call if the president, vice-president, chairperson or vice chairperson of the board or committee is physically present at the public meeting and requires that a meeting held by use of telephone conference call be subject to the same notice requirements as other meetings including location, must be open to the public, and must provide two-way audio communication between all board or committee members participating in the meeting.

SB 1237 clarifies that any redevelopment project authorized by the authority must relate directly to the purposes and goals of the authority rather than simply be on the authority's property or in the areas surrounding the authority's property.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2007.