

BILL ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 2036
By: Branch
Higher Education
Committee Report (Substituted)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

Texas will celebrate 200 years of independence in the year 2036. Interested parties note that Texas has one of the largest economies in the world, as well as one of the fastest growing populations in the country. With additional population growth expected, and with the state's long-term master education plan coming to an end, the parties contend that Texas must identify and recommend a new plan to produce the educated workforce necessary to complete in a global economy. C.S.H.B. 2036 seeks to provide for that plan by establishing a commission to identify future higher education and workforce needs of the state and to make related recommendations to address those needs by the state's upcoming bicentennial.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that rulemaking authority is expressly granted to the Texas 2036 Commission in SECTION 1 of this bill.

ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 2036 amends the Government Code to create the Texas 2036 Commission. The bill provides for the composition of the commission, with certain appointed members serving two-year terms and requires the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives to make the initial appointments not later than November 1, 2013. The bill authorizes appointed members to be reappointed and requires appointments to be made without regard to the race, color, disability, sex, religion, age, or national origin of the appointee. The bill provides for the filling of appointed member vacancies, the election by the members of a chair from among the commission's members, and the reimbursement of members for actual and necessary expenses incurred in performing their functions. The bill requires the commission to meet at the call of the chair and as provided by commission rule and authorizes the commission to adopt rules as necessary for its procedures.

C.S.H.B. 2036 requires the commission, with an emphasis on the state's changing demographics, to assess and identify future higher education and workforce needs in the state and the state's ability to meet those needs and to develop recommendations for meeting those needs by the state's bicentennial in 2036, including recommendations for achieving certain specified goals by that date.

C.S.H.B. 2036 requires the commission, not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year, to report to the legislature its assessment of the state's ability to meet the state's future higher education and workforce needs and its recommendations for meeting those needs. The bill's provisions expire and the commission is abolished January 1, 2037.

EFFECTIVE DATE

On passage, or, if the bill does not receive the necessary vote, September 1, 2013.

COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL AND SUBSTITUTE

While C.S.H.B. 2036 may differ from the original in minor or nonsubstantive ways, the following comparison is organized and highlighted in a manner that indicates the substantial differences between the introduced and committee substitute versions of the bill.

INTRODUCED

SECTION 1. DEFINITION.

In this Act, "commission" means the Texas 2036 Commission.

SECTION 2. COMMISSION.

(a) The Texas 2036 Commission is created.

(b) The commission is composed of 12 members. The executive director of the Texas Historical Commission, the president general of the Daughters of the Republic of Texas, and the chair of the board of directors of the State Fair of Texas are members of the commission. The governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives shall each appoint one member to the commission. The county judges of Bexar, Dallas, El Paso, Harris, Tarrant, and Travis Counties shall each appoint one member to the commission.

(c) Appointed members of the commission serve for two years and may be reappointed.

(d) Appointments to the commission shall be made without regard to the race, color, disability, sex, religion, age, or national origin of the appointee.

(e) A vacancy in an appointed office of the commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

SECTION 3. OFFICERS. The commission shall elect one of its members to serve as chair for a term of two years. The chair is entitled to vote on all matters before the

HOUSE COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

SECTION 1. Subtitle F, Title 4, Government Code, is amended by adding Chapter 490F to read as follows:

CHAPTER 490F. TEXAS 2036 COMMISSION

Sec. 490F.001. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "commission" means the Texas 2036 Commission.

Sec. 490F.002. CREATION OF COMMISSION; COMPOSITION. (a) The Texas 2036 Commission is created.

(b) The commission is composed of the following members:

(1) the presiding officer of each legislative standing committee with primary jurisdiction over higher education;

(2) the commissioner of higher education;

(3) the chair of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board;

(4) the chair of the Texas Workforce Commission;

(5) the chair of a governing board of an institution of higher education appointed by the governor;

(6) a trustee of a public junior college district appointed by the governor;

(7) two persons possessing experience in the field of higher education appointed by the lieutenant governor; and

(8) two persons appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives, one of whom must possess experience in the field of higher education.

(c) Appointed members of the commission serve for two years and may be reappointed.

(d) Appointments to the commission shall be made without regard to the race, color, disability, sex, religion, age, or national origin of the appointee.

(e) A vacancy in an appointed office of the commission shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointment.

Sec. 490F.003. OFFICERS. The commission shall elect one of its members to serve as chair for a term of two years. The chair is entitled to vote on all matters before

commission.

SECTION 4. COMPENSATION. A member of the commission serves without compensation but is entitled to reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in performing functions as a member of the commission, subject to any applicable limitation on reimbursement provided by the General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 5. MEETINGS. The commission shall meet at the call of the chair and as provided by commission rule.

SECTION 6. POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMISSION. (a) The commission may adopt rules as necessary for its procedures.

(b) The commission shall plan and coordinate state and local activities related to the celebration of the state's bicentennial.

(c) The commission may encourage individuals, private organizations, and local governmental bodies to organize appropriate activities and may gather and disseminate information to the public relating to those activities.

(d) The commission may solicit and accept gifts and grants from any source to be used by the commission in performing its functions under this Act.

SECTION 7. COMMISSION REPORTS.

(a) Before each regular session of the legislature, the commission shall report to the legislature on its activities during the preceding two-year period. The report must include an accounting, verified by a certified

the commission.

Sec. 490F.004. COMPENSATION. A member of the commission serves without compensation but is entitled to reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in performing functions as a member of the commission, subject to any applicable limitation on reimbursement provided by the General Appropriations Act.

Sec. 490F.005. MEETINGS. The commission shall meet at the call of the chair and as provided by commission rule.

Sec. 490F.006. POWERS AND DUTIES OF COMMISSION. (a) The commission may adopt rules as necessary for its procedures.

(b) The commission, with an emphasis on the changing demographics of this state, shall:

(1) assess and identify future higher education and workforce needs in the state and the state's ability to meet those needs; and

(2) develop recommendations for meeting those needs by the state's bicentennial in 2036, including recommendations for achieving the following goals by that date:

(A) attaining a state workforce in which at least 60 percent of its workers hold a postsecondary credential, certificate, or degree of value in the workplace;

(B) increasing by at least three the number of institutions of higher education designated as research institutions under the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board's accountability system;

(C) ensuring the alignment of workforce development with higher education in this state;

(D) increasing the college-attending population in this state to a level that is comparable to the best performing states on that measure;

(E) improving the affordability of higher education in this state while maintaining excellence; and

(F) ensuring the global competitiveness of the state workforce.

Sec. 490F.007. REPORTS. Not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year, the commission shall report to the legislature its assessment of the state's ability to meet the future higher education and workforce needs of this state and its recommendations for

public accountant, of the money raised and spent by the commission during the period covered by the report.

(b) As soon after March 2, 2036, as the commission determines that it has completed its work and has satisfied its financial obligations, but not later than December 31, 2036, the commission shall file with the legislature and the secretary of state a final report verified by a certified public accountant that shows:

(1) the total amount of contributions received by the commission during the commission's existence;

(2) the total amount of expenditures made by the commission; and

(3) the total amount of money remaining in the commission's possession.

(c) On the date on which the commission files its final report, the commission shall deliver to the comptroller of public accounts all unexpended and unobligated money that the commission possesses. The comptroller shall deposit the money to the credit of the general revenue fund.

SECTION 8. EXPIRATION. This Act expires and the commission is abolished January 1, 2037.

SECTION 9. INITIAL APPOINTMENTS. The governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the appropriate county judges shall make the appointments required by Section 2 of this Act not later than November 1, 2013.

SECTION 10. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

meeting those needs, including by achieving the goals prescribed by Section 490F.006(b)(2).

Sec. 490F.008. EXPIRATION. This chapter expires and the commission is abolished January 1, 2037.

SECTION 2. The governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives shall make the appointments required by Section 490F.002, Government Code, as added by this Act, not later than November 1, 2013.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2013.