

By: Anchia

H.B. No. 3850

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the promotion of Texas airports in the international
3 marketplace.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. Section 21.003(a), Transportation Code, is
6 amended to read as follows:

7 Sec. 21.003(a). The aviation advisory committee consists of
8 [six] seven members appointed by the commission to advise the
9 commission and the department on aviation matters, one of which
10 must have ten years of experience in an executive position at an
11 international airport in a city with a population of 500,000 or
12 more.

13 SECTION 2. Sec. 21.101(a), Transportation Code, is amended
14 to read as follows:

15 Sec. 21.101(a). The department may loan or grant money to a
16 state agency with a governing board authorized to operate an
17 airport or to a governmental entity in this state to establish,
18 construct, reconstruct, enlarge, or repair an airport, airstrip, or
19 air navigational facility if:

20 (1) the money has been appropriated to the department
21 for that purpose;

22 (2) the Advisory Committee has reviewed the potential
23 of the proposed facility for capacity to serve international
24 commerce; and

1 (3)[(2)] providing the money will:

2 (A) best serve the public interest; ~~and~~

3 (B) best discharge the governmental aeronautics
4 function of the state or its political subdivisions;

5 SECTION 3. Subchapter C, Chapter 21, Transportation Code,
6 is amended by adding Section 21.115 to read as follows:

7 Section 21.115. TEXAS GLOBAL AIRPORTS PROGRAM. (a) In this
8 section, "program" means the Texas Global Airports Program.

9 (b) An interagency, public-private sector work group
10 entitled the Texas Global Airports Work Group is created to:

11 (1) develop or update a process to allow agencies and
12 business to work together to identify the key emerging global
13 markets for Texas products and services, and inbound foreign
14 investment in Texas businesses, and collaborate to identify
15 improvements to Texas' airports to better serve international
16 commerce;

17 (2) consult with local governments, educational
18 institutions, economic development and metropolitan planning
19 organizations, workforce development agencies, small business
20 agencies, chambers of commerce, trade associations, and other
21 stakeholders, to elicit recommendations on a statewide strategy to
22 enhance services out of Texas' global airports;

23 (3) consult with the top industry consumers of Texas
24 products and services in foreign nations, elicit recommendations
25 on improvements to Texas airports, including enhancements
26 targeting international shippers and passengers, which would
27 improve Texas' ability to compete with other states, provinces and

1 nations for international aviation business;

2 (4) Establish a "Texas Global Airports Fund," and
3 criteria and a procedure through which a facility may secure
4 certification at "Texas Global Airport," entitling the facility to
5 apply for funding for capital and other improvements from the fund.

6 (c) The task force shall meet at least once quarterly in
7 Austin to report on results of their consultations, new
8 international partnerships, and best practices and case studies
9 from other states, provinces and nations.

10 (d) No later than December 31, 2014, the Task Force shall
11 publish its findings and strategic recommendations, including
12 selected case studies from other nations, and a strategic plan to
13 boost total international activity at Texas airports by 20% by the
14 year 2025.

15 (e) In fulfilling its duties, the task force shall consider
16 opportunities to collaborate with the federal government,
17 including the U.S. Department of Transportation and Federal
18 Aviation Administration, and other federal government
19 departments, and the effect of federal policies, including trade
20 agreements, upon Texas' business opportunities in the global
21 marketplace.

22 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
23 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
24 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
25 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
26 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.