

By: Bonnen of Galveston, Craddick, Oliveira,
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et al.

H.B. No. 1984

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1984:

By: Oliveira

C.S.H.B. No. 1984

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the aerospace and aviation office of the Texas Economic
3 Development and Tourism Office and to the aerospace and aviation
4 advisory committee.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 481.0066, Government Code, is amended by
7 amending Subsections (d) and (e) and adding Subsections (d-1),
8 (d-2), (e-1), and (e-2) to read as follows:

9 (d) The aerospace and aviation office shall:

10 (1) analyze space-related and aviation-related
11 research currently conducted in this state and may conduct
12 activities designed to further that research;

13 (2) analyze the state's economic position in the
14 aerospace and aviation industries;

15 (3) develop short-term and long-term business
16 strategies as part of an industry-specific strategic plan to
17 promote the retention, development, and expansion of aerospace and
18 aviation industry facilities in the state that is consistent with
19 and complementary of the office strategic plan;

20 (4) make specific recommendations to the legislature
21 and the governor regarding the promotion of those industries;

22 (5) as part of and to further the purposes of the
23 industry-specific strategic plan described by Subdivision (3),
24 develop short-term and long-term policy initiatives or recommend

1 reforms the state may undertake or implement to:

2 (A) increase investment in aerospace and
3 aviation activities;

4 (B) support the retention, development, and
5 expansion of spaceports in this state;

6 (C) identify and encourage educational,
7 economic, and defense-related opportunities for aerospace and
8 aviation activities;

9 (D) increase funding for the spaceport trust fund
10 created under Section 481.0069 and support ongoing projects that
11 have been assisted by the fund, including recommending to the
12 legislature an appropriate funding level for the fund;

13 (E) partner with the Texas Higher Education
14 Coordinating Board to foster technological advancement and
15 economic development for spaceport activities by strengthening
16 higher education programs and supporting aerospace activities; and

17 (F) partner with the Texas Workforce Commission
18 to support initiatives that address the high-technology skills and
19 staff resources needed to better promote the state's efforts in
20 becoming the leading space exploration state in the nation;

21 (6) act as a liaison with other state and federal
22 entities with related economic, educational, and defense
23 responsibilities to support the marketing of the state's aerospace
24 and aviation capabilities;

25 (7) [~~6~~] provide technical support and expertise to
26 the state and to local spaceport authorities regarding aerospace
27 and aviation business matters; and

1 (8) [~~(7)~~] be responsible for the promotion and
2 development of spaceports in this state.

3 (d-1) The aerospace and aviation office shall make specific
4 short-term and long-term statutory, administrative, and
5 budget-related recommendations to the legislature and the governor
6 regarding the policy initiatives and reforms described by
7 Subsection (d)(5) that may be implemented by the state. The
8 short-term recommendations must include a plan for state action for
9 implementation beginning not later than September 1, 2017. The
10 initiatives and reforms in the short-term plan must be fully
11 implemented by September 1, 2020. The long-term recommendations
12 must include a plan for state action for implementation beginning
13 not later than September 1, 2020. The initiatives and reforms in
14 the long-term plan must be fully implemented by September 1, 2025.
15 The aerospace and aviation office shall submit these
16 recommendations to the legislature and governor with the biennial
17 report required by Subsection (d-2) not later than December 1,
18 2016. This subsection expires September 1, 2017.

19 (d-2) Not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year,
20 the aerospace and aviation office shall submit to the legislature
21 and governor, in printed or electronic form, a report detailing the
22 actions taken by the aerospace and aviation office in carrying out
23 the policy initiatives and reforms under Subsection (d)(5) to
24 further the purposes of the industry-specific strategic plan as
25 specified in the recommendations required by Subsection (d-1),
26 including:

27 (1) the status of all projects and activities;

1 (2) the funding of expenditures;

2 (3) a summary of work performed as part of the
3 aerospace and aviation office's partnership with the Texas Higher
4 Education Coordinating Board, including a summary prepared by the
5 board of the research conducted by public senior colleges or
6 universities, as defined by Section 61.003, Education Code;

7 (4) a summary of work performed as part of the
8 aerospace and aviation office's partnership with the Texas
9 Workforce Commission; and

10 (5) an explanation of the ways in which the aerospace
11 and aviation office has promoted the state's economic development
12 goals through increased space exploration activities.

13 (e) The governor shall appoint an aerospace and aviation
14 advisory committee consisting of:

15 (1) seven qualified members to assist in the state's
16 economic development efforts to recruit and retain aerospace and
17 aviation jobs and investment; and

18 (2) one member for each active spaceport development
19 corporation in the state who represents the interests of each
20 respective spaceport development corporation.

21 (e-1) The aerospace and aviation advisory committee shall:

22 (1) advise the governor on the recruitment and
23 retention of aerospace and aviation jobs and investment;

24 (2) assist the office and the aerospace and aviation
25 office in meeting the state's economic development efforts to
26 recruit and retain aerospace and aviation jobs and investment;

27 (3) advise the office, the aerospace and aviation

1 office, and the governor on an appropriate funding level for the
2 spaceport trust fund;

3 (4) advise the office, the aerospace and aviation
4 office, and the governor on recruitment, retention, and expansion
5 of aerospace and aviation industry activities; and

6 (5) collect and disseminate information on federal,
7 state, local, and private community economic development programs
8 that assist or provide loans, grants, or other funding to aerospace
9 and aviation industry activities.

10 (e-2) Members of the aerospace and aviation advisory
11 committee:

12 (1) shall serve staggered four-year terms; and

13 (2) may not receive compensation for serving on the
14 committee.

15 SECTION 2. (a) The terms of the current members of the
16 aerospace and aviation advisory committee expire on the effective
17 date of this Act. On that date or as soon as possible after that
18 date, the governor shall appoint new members to the aerospace and
19 aviation advisory committee in accordance with the requirements of
20 Section 481.0066(e), Government Code, as amended by this Act.

21 (b) A member of the aerospace and aviation advisory
22 committee serving immediately before the effective date of this Act
23 is eligible for reappointment to the committee if the person has the
24 qualifications for a member under Section 481.0066(e), Government
25 Code, as amended by this Act.

26 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.