

1-1 By: Parker S.B. No. 2144  
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 9, 2023; March 21, 2023, read  
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Transportation;  
 1-4 April 11, 2023, reported adversely, with favorable Committee  
 1-5 Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; April 11, 2023,  
 1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	X			
1-10			X	
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14	X			
1-15	X			
1-16	X			
1-17	X			

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 2144 By: Parker

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to advanced air mobility technology.  
 1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:  
 1-23 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 21, Transportation Code,  
 1-24 is amended by adding Section 21.0045 to read as follows:  
 1-25 Sec. 21.0045. ADVANCED AIR MOBILITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE.  
 1-26 (a) In this section, "advanced air mobility" has the meaning  
 1-27 assigned by Section 21.072.  
 1-28 (b) The commission shall appoint an advisory committee to  
 1-29 assess current state law and any potential changes to state law that  
 1-30 are needed to facilitate the implementation of advanced air  
 1-31 mobility technology in this state.  
 1-32 (c) The commission shall appoint to the advisory committee  
 1-33 members to represent:  
 1-34 (1) diverse geographic regions of the state;  
 1-35 (2) state and local law enforcement;  
 1-36 (3) the advanced air mobility industry;  
 1-37 (4) transportation experts;  
 1-38 (5) commercial airport representatives;  
 1-39 (6) vertical takeoff and landing operators and  
 1-40 vertiport operators;  
 1-41 (7) local governments; and  
 1-42 (8) the general public.  
 1-43 (d) The advisory committee shall:  
 1-44 (1) hold public hearings in locations across the state  
 1-45 or via electronic means; and  
 1-46 (2) receive comments through an Internet website, by  
 1-47 mail, and by other methods, if appropriate.  
 1-48 (e) Not later than November 1, 2024, the advisory committee  
 1-49 shall submit to the commission and the legislature a written report  
 1-50 that includes the committee's findings and recommendations on any  
 1-51 changes to state law that are needed to facilitate the  
 1-52 implementation of advanced air mobility technology in this state.  
 1-53 (f) The advisory committee is abolished and this section  
 1-54 expires January 1, 2025.  
 1-55 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 21, Transportation Code,  
 1-56 is amended by adding Section 21.072 to read as follows:  
 1-57 Sec. 21.072. ADVANCED AIR MOBILITY. (a) In this section,  
 1-58 "advanced air mobility" means an aviation transportation system  
 1-59 that uses highly automated aircraft, which may be manned or  
 1-60 unmanned, to operate and transport passengers or cargo at lower

2-1 altitudes for commercial, public service, private, or recreational  
2-2 purposes.

2-3 (b) The department shall:

2-4 (1) review existing state aviation standards and  
2-5 guidelines, airport facility planning, and compatibility guidance  
2-6 to ensure that the standards, guidelines, planning, and guidance  
2-7 are applicable to advanced air mobility;

2-8 (2) support the development of federal and industry  
2-9 standards for advanced air mobility technology that prioritize  
2-10 safety as the technology develops;

2-11 (3) designate a department employee as a liaison to  
2-12 the Federal Aviation Administration for purposes of Subdivision  
2-13 (2);

2-14 (4) develop a statewide plan, or an update to the Texas  
2-15 Airport System Plan, that specifies potential locations for and  
2-16 classifications of vertiports and other associated infrastructure  
2-17 to guide the future operational environment of advanced air  
2-18 mobility; and

2-19 (5) provide resources and assistance on the use of  
2-20 advanced air mobility technology and infrastructure to local  
2-21 governments, regional councils of government, transportation  
2-22 planning organizations, the advanced air mobility industry, and  
2-23 other entities for the purpose of identifying governmental methods  
2-24 to integrate industry innovation and community vision and help  
2-25 promote advanced air mobility technology.

2-26 (c) The department, Texas Education Agency, Texas Higher  
2-27 Education Coordinating Board, and Texas State Technical College  
2-28 System shall jointly collaborate with school districts,  
2-29 institutions of higher education, and interested public and private  
2-30 stakeholders on educational opportunities related to advanced air  
2-31 mobility technology.

2-32 SECTION 3. The Texas Department of Transportation, Texas  
2-33 Education Agency, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and  
2-34 Texas State Technical College System are required to implement  
2-35 Section 21.072, Transportation Code, as added by this Act, only if  
2-36 the legislature appropriates money specifically for that purpose.  
2-37 If the legislature does not appropriate money specifically for that  
2-38 purpose, the Texas Department of Transportation, Texas Education  
2-39 Agency, Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, and Texas State  
2-40 Technical College System may, but are not required to, implement  
2-41 Section 21.072, Transportation Code, using other appropriations  
2-42 available for that purpose.

2-43 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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