

By: Van de Putte

S.B. No. 1230

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of the Legislative Committee on Aging.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 161, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Subchapter G to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER G. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON AGING

Sec. 161.251. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Committee" means the Legislative Committee on Aging.

(2) "Health and human services agency" has the meaning assigned by Section 531.001, Government Code.

Sec. 161.252. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE ON AGING ESTABLISHED.

The Legislative Committee on Aging is established to:

(1) study issues relating to the aging population of Texas, including issues related to the health care, income, transportation, housing, education, and employment needs of that population; and

(2) make recommendations to address those issues.

Sec. 161.253. COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEE; PRESIDING OFFICER.

(a) The committee is composed of:

(1) two members of the senate and one public member appointed by the lieutenant governor; and

(2) two members of the house of representatives and

1 one public member appointed by the speaker of the house of
2 representatives.

3 (b) A member of the committee serves at the pleasure of the
4 appointing official.

5 (c) The lieutenant governor and the speaker of the house of
6 representatives shall appoint the presiding officer of the
7 committee on an alternating basis. The presiding officer shall
8 serve a two-year term expiring February 1 of each odd-numbered
9 year.

10 Sec. 161.254. COMMITTEE POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) The
11 committee shall:

12 (1) meet at the call of the presiding officer;

13 (2) conduct a continuing study of issues relating to
14 the aging population;

15 (3) analyze the availability of, and unmet needs for,
16 state and local services for the aging population; and

17 (4) request reports and other information relating to
18 the aging population as necessary from the executive commissioner,
19 the department, other health and human services agencies, the
20 attorney general, and any other state agency.

21 (b) The executive commissioner, the department, other
22 health and human services agencies, the attorney general, and any
23 other applicable state agency shall fully cooperate with the
24 committee in performing the committee's duties under this
25 subchapter.

26 (c) The committee may issue process, in accordance with
27 Section 301.024, Government Code, to compel attendance of witnesses

1 and the production of books, records, documents, and instruments
2 required by the committee.

3 (d) The committee shall use the existing staff resources of
4 the senate and the house of representatives to assist the committee
5 in performing its duties under this section.

6 Sec. 161.255. REPORT. (a) The committee shall report to
7 the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives
8 having jurisdiction of issues related to the needs of the aging
9 population not later than November 15 of each even-numbered year.

10 (b) The report must include:

11 (1) a summary of the hearings and studies conducted by
12 the committee during the preceding year;

13 (2) a statement of findings based on the hearings and
14 studies conducted by the committee; and

15 (3) recommendations for legislation.

16 SECTION 2. The lieutenant governor and the speaker of the
17 house of representatives shall appoint members of the Legislative
18 Committee on Aging, as established by this Act, not later than the
19 30th day after the effective date of this Act.

20 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.