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(In the Senate - Filed February 17, 2015; February 23, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Intergovernmental Relations; April 7, 2015, reported adversely, with favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0;
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       April 7, 2015, sent to printer.)
                                         COMMITTEE VOTE
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                                                               Absent
                                             Yea
                                                      Nay
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               Lucio
                                                                   Χ
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               Bettencourt
                                              X
               <u>Campbell</u>
1-12
                                              Χ
               Garcia
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               Menéndez
                                              Χ
                                              Χ
1-14
               Nichols
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               Taylor of
                            Galveston
       COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 607
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                                                                               By:
                                                                                     Lucio
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                                     A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
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                                              AN ACT
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       relating to the Texas Interagency Council for the Homeless.
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               BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
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1-22
               SECTION 1. Section 2306.903(a), Government Code, is amended
       to read as follows:
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               (a)
                     The Texas Interagency Council for the Homeless is
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       composed of:
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                       (1)
                            one representative from each of the following
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       agencies, appointed by the administrative head of that agency:
                             (A)
                                   the
                                         [<del>Texas</del>] Department of
                                                                          State
                                                                                   Health
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       Services;
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                             (B)
                                    [the Texas Department of Human Services;
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                             [<del>(C)</del>
                                     the Texas Department of Mental Health and
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                            on;
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                             [<del>(D)</del>]
                                     the Texas Department of Criminal Justice;
                             (C) [\frac{E}{E}] the [\frac{E}{E}] Department of [\frac{E}{E}] Aging
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       and Disability Services;
                             (D) [<del>(F) the Texas Rehabilitation</del> [<del>(G)</del>] the Texas Education Agency;
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                                          the Texas Rehabilitation Commission;
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                             (E) [(H) the Texas Commission on Alcohol and Drug
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       Abuse;
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                             \left[\frac{1}{1}\right] the Department of Family and Protective
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       [and Regulatory]
                            Services;
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                             (F) \left[ \frac{J}{J} \right]
                                           the
                                                   Health
                                                               and
                                                                       Human
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       Commission;
                             (G) [<del>(K)</del>]
1-43
                                           the Texas Workforce Commission;
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                             (<u>H)</u> [<del>(L)</del>]
                                           the Texas Juvenile Justice Department
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                           on]; [and]
                Commiss
                             (I) [<del>(M)</del>]
(J) the
1-46
                                           the Texas Veterans Commission; and
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                                            Department of
                                                                     Assistive
                                                                                        and
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       Rehabilitative Services;
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                      (2)
                           two representatives from the department who are
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       appointed by the director, including at least one representative
       whose duties include management or administration of the community services block grant program or the emergency solutions grant
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       program [<del>one</del>
                               from the community affairs
                        each
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                           division, appointed by the director]; and
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                      (3) three members representing service providers to
       the homeless, one each appointed by the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives.
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               SECTION 2. Section 2306.904(e), Government Code, is amended
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       to read as follows:
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S.B. No. 607

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By:

Hancock

(e) The department shall provide clerical and advisory

C.S.S.B. No. 607

support staff and may provide fiscal support to the council.

2-1 SECTION 3. Section 2306.905, Government Code, is amended to 2-2 2-3 read as follows:

Sec. 2306.905. DUTIES OF COUNCIL. (a) The council shall:

- (1) survey current resources for services for the homeless in this state;
- (2) initiate an evaluation of the current and future needs for the services;
- (3) assist in coordinating and providing statewide services for all homeless individuals in this state;
- (4) increase the flow of information among separate providers and appropriate authorities;
- (5) develop guidelines to monitor the provision of services for the homeless and the methods of delivering those services;
- (6) provide technical assistance to the housing finance division of the department in assessing the need for housing for individuals with special needs in different localities;
- (7) coordinate with the Texas Workforce Commission, local workforce development boards, homeless shelters, and public and private entities to provide homeless individuals information on services available to assist them in obtaining employment and job training;
- establish a central resource and information (8) center for the homeless in this state; and
- (9) ensure that local or statewide nonprofit organizations perform the duties under this section that the council is unable to perform.
- (b) The council and each of its represented agencies may seek program or policy assistance from the Texas Homeless Network in accomplishing the council's duties.

SECTION 4. Section 2306.906(b), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Each agency shall contribute resources to the council unless the agency certifies in writing that the agency is unable to contribute resources during that fiscal period.

SECTION 5. Subchapter KK, Chapter 2306, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 2306.910 to read as follows:

Sec. 2306.910. MEETING BY TELECONFERENCE. Notwithstanding Chapter 551, a member of the council who resides 20 or more miles away from the location of a council meeting may participate remotely in the meeting by telephone conference call or videoconference and is counted as present at the meeting for purposes of determining whether a quorum of the council is present.

SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

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