

**SUBJECT:** General Services Commission title to state property outside Austin

**COMMITTEE:** Land and Resource Management — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 6 ayes — Bosse, B. Turner, Crabb, Howard, Jackson, Staples  
0 nays  
3 absent — Hamric, Krusee, Mowery

**WITNESSES:** None

**BACKGROUND :** Sec. 2166.054 of the Government Code requires the General Services Commission (GSC) to hold titles for and retain control over real estate acquired by the state for a building site and any building located on the site. Subsection (c) of that section specifies that the provision applies to state buildings constructed by the commission in Austin.

**DIGEST:** HB 3367 would repeal Government Code sec. 2166.054(c). The bill would take immediate effect if finally approved by a two-thirds record vote of the membership of both houses.

**SUPPORTERS SAY:** HB 3367 would simply amend current law to reflect current practices. The GSC now holds titles to state lands and office buildings located in other Texas cities, such as Waco, Corpus Christi and Houston, as well as Austin. Although the commission has no explicit authority to do this, the practice has not been contested.

HB 3367 would simply change current law to reflect current operating procedures. It would not broaden the commission's power to control buildings and sites used for purposes other than state offices.

**OPPONENTS SAY:** Despite its intent, HB 3367 could be construed as broadening the GSC's powers to control land titles and buildings outside Austin, including prisons, health care facilities, and other state facilities. Current law explicitly exempts the facilities of certain agencies, including the Texas Department of

Transportation and state universities, from GSC control. It could be argued that GSC would gain control over facilities outside Austin owned by other agencies not specifically exempted, even though those facilities may not be office buildings or warehouses.