BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1904 By: Sibley State Affairs 4-2-97 As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, the State Aircraft Pooling Board owns and operates all state aircraft, of which it is authorized to lease or assign to various agencies. Although the board assigns several Cessna 140 training airplanes to Texas State Technical College (TSTC), the board is required to maintain responsibility for each pilot using an airplane by having these persons sign off for each pilot. This bill transfers the responsibility of signing off for instructors and student pilots using these aircraft to TSTC, by transferring the aircraft to TSTC.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 1904 transfers the responsibility for state aircraft used for flight training programs by public postsecondary educational institutions.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 2205B, Government Code, by adding Section 2205.046, as follows:

Sec. 2205.046. AIRCRAFT FOR FLIGHT TRAINING PROGRAMS. Authorizes the State Aircraft Pooling Board (board) to transfer aircraft to a public technical institute or other public postsecondary educational institution for use in the institution's flight training program. Provides that the board has no responsibility for aircraft transferred under this section, except as provided by this section. Requires the institution to certify in writing to the board that the aircraft will be properly maintained while in the custody and control of the institution. Provides that the board is entitled to inspect the aircraft without notice for the purpose of insuring that the aircraft are properly maintained. Authorizes the board to immediately reassume custody and control of a transferred aircraft on a finding by the board that the aircraft is not being properly maintained, used for a purpose other than flight training, or if the institution has discontinued its flight training program.

SECTION 2. Emergency clause.

Effective date: upon passage.