

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 606
By: Ellis
Veterans Affairs
3/1/1999
Committee Report (Amended)

DIGEST

The 75th Legislature established the Strategic Military Planning Commission (SMPC) to develop a proactive statewide strategy to prevent future defense closures and realignments. The SMPC developed a master plan as a starting point for accomplishing these goals. According to the master plan, Texas' transportation infrastructure is critical to the military forces based here. When the forces must engage in quick deployment, poorly maintained or inadequate roads could cause a delay resulting in a loss of lives. S.B. 606 is a recommendation from the master plan, and would require the Texas Department of Transportation to conduct a study of strategic deployment routes and highways used by the military based in Texas.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 606 requires the Texas Department of Transportation to conduct a study of strategic deployment routes and highways used by the military, and requires the submission of a report and recommendations resulting from this study.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. STUDY OF HIGHWAYS USED BY THE MILITARY. Requires the Texas Department of Transportation (TXDOT) to conduct a strategic deployment study to determine routes critical to the mission of the military in Texas. Sets forth requirements for the study. Requires TXDOT to consider the necessary costs of highway improvements. Authorizes TXDOT to base a portion of the study on prior studies and existing data which provide accurate data and address an issue relevant to this Act. Authorizes TXDOT to enlist available university research support to reduce the cost of the study.

SECTION 2. REPORT. Requires TXDOT to submit a written report to certain authorities, by January 31, 2000, regarding the results, including recommendations, based on the required study.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES

SECTION 1.

Authorizes TXDOT to base a portion of a required study on existing data, and authorizes TXDOT to enlist available university research support to reduce the cost of the study.