

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
81R10942 MCK-D

S.B. 1654
By: Van de Putte
Veteran Affairs & Military Installations
3/31/2009
As Filed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

In 2003, the 78th Legislature, Regular Session, created the Texas Military Preparedness Commission (TMPC) as a trustee program within the office of the governor to assist local defense communities in identifying and using economic development resources that enhance the military value of their installations. TMPC's mission is to preserve and expand Texas' 18 major military installations and their missions, and assist communities that have been impacted by a United States Department of Defense Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) action.

Defense communities affected by federal government decisions, such as BRAC process, struggle to create new jobs for citizens and to retain existing jobs potentially affected by BRAC. Texas has developed the Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Grant (DEAAG) program to assist these communities in creating jobs. However, several of the existing guarantees have not met their job creation goals as set out in their contract for the grant award. In some cases, communities used grant funds in a way that helped those communities retain existing jobs. While not unreasonable, this approach did not meet the terms of the grant.

As proposed, S.B. 1654 requires the Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Panel to evaluate each application and assign the applicant a score based on certain factors, including the anticipated number of jobs to be created or retained in relation to the amount of the grant sought.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 486.008, Government Code, to require the Defense Economic Adjustment Assistance Panel to evaluate each application and assign the applicant a score based on certain factors, including the anticipated number of jobs to be created or retained in relation to the amount of the grant sought.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2009.