

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
77R7497 BDH-D

H.B. 1059  
By: Pitts (Cain)  
Administration  
5/1/2001  
Engrossed

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Currently, Texas has more state symbols designated by the legislature than any other state, which may lead to confusion as to what constitutes a state symbol or place designation. In addition, a completed list of symbols and place designations has not been certified by a centrally accepted process. H.B. 1059 provides that the legislature must specify an item's historical or cultural significance to the state before designating the item as a state symbol.

### **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 Title 3, Government Code, by adding Subtitle Z, as follows:

SUBTITLE Z. MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS  
CHAPTER 391. RESOLUTIONS FOR STATE SYMBOLS  
AND PLACE DESIGNATIONS

Sec. 391.001. EFFECT OF CHAPTER. Provides that this chapter governs the designation of state symbols and place designations made by the legislature by resolution approved by each house of the legislature. Provides that this chapter does not affect the designation of a state symbol or a place designation made by resolution before September 1, 2001, or statute.

Sec. 391.002. STATE SYMBOLS. Requires the legislature to specify an item's historical or cultural significance to the state before designating the item as a state symbol. Prohibits the legislature from designating certain objects as a state symbol. Requires a resolution proposing designation of an object as a state symbol, in order to be effective, to be referred to and reported by the appropriate committee in each house in the manner provided for bills.

Sec. 391.003. PLACE DESIGNATIONS. Defines "place designation." Prohibits the legislature from assigning the same place designation to more than one event or location. Prohibits the legislature from assigning more than one place designation to any municipality, county, or other location. Provides that this section does not prohibit the legislature from assigning more than one place designation within a county. Requires the legislature to be presented by persons supporting the designation with certain information before the legislature is authorized to assign a place designation to a municipality, county, or other location. Provides that a place designation expires on the 10th anniversary of its designation. Provides that this section does not prevent the legislature from redesignating a place designation during or after the 10-year period. Requires a resolution proposing a place designation, in order to be effective, to be referred to and reported by the appropriate committee in each house in the manner provided for bills.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 441.006(a), Government Code, to require the Texas State Library and Archives Commission to prepare and make available to the public a complete list of every state symbol and place designation, including state symbols and place designations made in accordance with Chapter 391.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2001. Provides that Chapter 391, Government Code, as added by this Act, applies only to a state symbol or place designation adopted by the legislature after the effective date of this Act.