

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 1279
By: Oliveira (Lucio)
Intergovernmental Relations
5-1-97
Committee Report (Amended)

DIGEST

Currently, Texas law allows cities to allow minor subdivision plats to be approved by one city employee instead of by the planning commission and/or governing body. The city of Brownsville has not taken advantage of that option. H.B. 1979 would allow one or more persons of the municipality or a municipal utility the ability to approve minor plats and plat amendments in order to save time and offer efficient service to those doing business with the city of Brownsville.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 1279 outlines provisions regarding the delegation of responsibility by a municipality for the approval of certain plats.

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 Section 212.0065, Local Government Code, to authorize the governing body of a municipality, rather than a municipality, to delegate to one or more persons, rather than an employee, of the municipality or of a utility owned or operated by the municipality the ability to approve certain responsibilities. Authorizes the designated person or persons, rather than employee, to elect to present the plat for approval to the municipal authority responsible for approving plats, rather than the municipal planning commission or governing body, or both, to approve the plat. Provides that the person or persons, rather than employee, shall not disapprove the plat and shall be required to refer any plat which the person or persons refuse, rather than he refuses, to approve to the municipal authority responsible for approving plats, rather than the municipal planning commission or governing body, or both, within the time period specified in Section 212.009.

SECTION 2. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES

Amendment 1.

Page 1, line 8, amends text to strike "The municipal authority responsible for approving plats" and insert "The governing body of a municipality."