

SENATE BILL 186: Beaufort-Morehead Cty Airport Authority/Amend.

2019-2020 General Assembly

Committee: House Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the Date: July 8, 2019

House

OVERVIEW: Senate Bill 186 would make the following changes to the Beaufort-Morehead City Airport Authority:

- > Rename it the Carteret County-Beaufort Airport Authority.
- > Increase the number of members from five to seven.
- > Change the makeup of the Authority by eliminating the Morehead City appointee and adding three Carteret County appointees.
- Make a conforming change to the Authority's power to acquire property by agreement with the cities and county by deleting Morehead City.

CURRENT LAW: The Beaufort-Morehead City Airport Authority consists of five members. One of the members must be a resident voter of Beaufort, appointed by Beaufort Commissioners. One of the members must be a resident voter of Morehead City, appointed by Morehead City Commissioners. The other three members must be from the county at large and must be appointed by the Carteret County Board of Commissioners. The term of office is two years.

The Airport Authority is currently permitted to make agreements with Carteret County and the Cities of Beaufort and Morehead City to acquire any real or personal property necessary to construct and operate any airport in Carteret County.

BILL ANALYSIS: The bill would change the name of the Beaufort-Morehead City Airport Authority to the Carteret County-Beaufort Airport Authority and would increase the membership of the Authority from five to seven members.

The bill would also change the makeup of the Authority from one Morehead City appointee, one Beaufort appointee, and three Carteret County appointees, to one Beaufort appointee and six Carteret County appointees. The two new appointees' terms would begin on September 1, 2019, and they would be appointed by the Carteret County Board of Commissioners. The existing City of Morehead City appointee, whose position would be eliminated by the bill, would serve out his term, which expires on August 31, 2019, and then a replacement would be appointed by Carteret County Board of Commissioners.

The bill would also make a conforming change to the Authority's power to acquire property from Beaufort, Morehead City, and Carteret County for constructing, operating, and maintaining airports by deleting Morehead City from that provision.

EFFECTIVE DATE: Section 2 of the act, making changes to the Authority membership, would become effective August 31, 2019 with the two new appointee terms beginning September 1, 2019. The remainder of the act would be effective when it becomes law.

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