

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

H.B. 2514  
By: Martinez  
Juvenile Justice & Family Issues  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

There are concerns about a shortage of qualified individuals to perform a child custody evaluation in certain counties in the Rio Grande Valley. H.B. 2514 seeks to address these concerns by expanding the applicability of a provision authorizing a court to appoint a child custody evaluator who does not meet the applicable minimum qualifications if an evaluator who meets those qualifications is unavailable.

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

H.B. 2514 amends the Family Code to expand the applicability of a provision authorizing a court in a county with a population of less than 500,000 to appoint a child custody evaluator who does not meet the applicable minimum qualifications if an evaluator who meets those qualifications is not available to include a county that borders the United Mexican States and is contiguous to the Gulf of Mexico or a bay or inlet opening into the gulf and a county that borders such a county.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2019