

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 842
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International Relations, Trade & Technology
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As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs is required to assess certain eligibility standards for public housing and to make a determination of alternatives for increasing affordable housing in the border region. However, it is still unclear what standards should be modified to provide for the more efficient allocation of federal funds for housing projects throughout the state. This bill requires the department to assess eligibility standards for public housing programs and to report the results to certain persons.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 842 requires the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs to assess eligibility standards for public housing programs and to report the results to certain persons.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. STUDY. Requires the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (department) to assess the department's eligibility standards for public housing programs to determine whether the standards should be modified to provide for more efficient spending of federal money on housing projects statewide, and to research alternative options and funding sources for providing affordable housing to individuals and families of low income in the border region.

SECTION 2. REPORT. Requires the department to prepare and deliver a report to certain persons concerning the outcome of the department's efforts under SECTION 1 of this Act, by January 15, 1999. Authorizes the department to include the report required by this Act in the annual report required by Section 2306.072, Government Code.

SECTION 3. DEFINITION. Defines "border region."

SECTION 4. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.