

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
76R9125 CAG-D

S.B. 1284  
By: Lucio  
Border Affairs - Special  
3/24/1999  
As Filed

### **DIGEST**

Currently, there is no one responsible for providing home owners in colonias with information. S.B. 1284 would establish the creation and oversight of a colonia ombudsman program in certain economically distressed areas, and would require a colonia ombudsman to provide colonia residents with information on state or county programs affecting the colonias.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, S.B. 1284 establishes the creation and oversight of a colonia ombudsman program in certain economically distressed areas.

### **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 Title 7, Government Code, by adding Chapter 775, as follows:

#### **CHAPTER 775. COLONIA OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM**

Sec. 775.001. DEFINITIONS. Defines “agency” and “colonia.”

Sec. 775.002. INTERAGENCY COORDINATION OF COLONIA INITIATIVES. Requires the secretary of state to designate an employee to act as the colonia initiatives coordinator (coordinator). Sets forth requirements for the duties of the coordinator.

Sec. 775.003. COLONIA OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM. Requires the coordinator to appoint a colonia ombudsman in each of the six border counties that the coordinator determines to have the largest colonia population. Sets forth requirements for a colonia ombudsman. Requires the colonia ombudsman to report monthly to the coordinator on the ombudsman’s actions. Authorizes the colonia ombudsman to provide information to other agencies relating to colonia issues in the county in which the ombudsman is stationed.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.