

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R11470 CAG-D

C.S.S.B. 1284
By: Lucio
Border Affairs - Special
4/6/1999
Committee Report (Substituted)

DIGEST

Currently, there is no one responsible for providing home owners in colonias with information. C.S.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, C.S.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. Authorizes the governor to designate an agency to act as the state's colonia initiatives coordinator (coordinator). Requires the coordinator to coordinate colonia initiatives within the agency and with other agencies and local officials involved in colonia projects in the state. Authorizes the coordinator to work with the other agencies and local officials involved in colonia projects in the state to fulfill certain conditions. Sets forth agencies required to designate an officer or employee of the agency to serve as the agency's liaison for colonia initiatives. Requires each agency's liaison to be a deputy executive director or a person of equivalent or higher authority at the agency. Provides that this section does not authorize the creation of a new position for colonia coordination at a state agency.

Sec. 775.003. COLONIA OMBUDSMAN PROGRAM. Authorizes the coordinator to appoint a colonia ombudsman in each of the six border counties that the coordinator determines to have the largest colonia population.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES

SECTION 1.

Amends Section 775.002, Government Code, to establish provisions regarding interagency coordination of colonia initiatives.

Amends Section 775.003, Government Code, to establish provisions regarding a colonia ombudsman program.

