BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center 76R3350 LHO-D S.C.R. 6 By: Harris Administration 2/3/1999 As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, an estimated 24.5 percent of Texans, almost five million people, do not have health insurance. Despite a number of initiatives and general studies designed to analyze and solve this problem, the number of uninsured Texans continues to grow. This legislation would provide a comprehensive effort to both identify the various characteristics of the uninsured and to determine how best to address this problem.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.C.R. 6 submits the following resolutions:

That the governor, lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives should establish and provide resources for a Blue Ribbon Task Force to conduct an in-depth study of the lack of health insurance coverage for citizens of the State of Texas.

That the task force be composed of nine members: three members representing the public to be appointed by the governor, three members of the senate to be appointed by the lieutenant governor, and three members of the house of representatives to be appointed by the speaker of the house, with the chair to be elected by the members.

That efforts should be made in the appointments to include representatives from the business community, consumers, insurers, academics, health care providers, and others with expertise and interest in the Texas health care delivery system.

That the proceedings and operations of the task force be governed by the general rules and policies for joint interim committees as the 76th Legislature may adopt, and such rules and policies supersede the provisions of this resolution to the extent of any conflict.