

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
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S.B. 1468
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Health and Human Services
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As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

The 70th Legislature established the Children and Youth Services State Coordinating Committee (C&YSSCC) to assist state and local agencies with the coordination of their local service delivery for children and youth with problems that could be addressed only with the participation of more than one agency. State agencies that are represented on the C&YSSCC are required to maintain a memorandum of understanding (MOU), with the advice of private sector service providers and children's advocates, to provide service to Texas children and youth with multiple needs. Currently, all 254 Texas counties have access to a Community Resource Coordinating Group (CRCG) for children and youth. Due to the success of the CRCG youth model, groups across the state have begun to apply the concept to various adult populations with interagency needs. In 1999, the Texas Comptroller's Performance Report recommended the expansion of the CRCG process to pilot sites for adults.

As proposed, S.B. 1468 allows local communities to decide if they need a CRCG for children, adults, families, and/or specialty populations. S.B. 1468 also requires various agencies, departments, councils, and commissions to adopt a joint MOU to promote a system of local-level interagency staffing groups to coordinate services for all persons needing multiagency services.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 531B, Government Code, by adding Section 531.055, as follows:

Sec. 531.055. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON SERVICES FOR PERSONS NEEDING MULTIAGENCY SERVICES. (a) Requires each health and human services agency, the Texas Council on Offenders with Mental Impairments, the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Workforce Commission, and the Texas Youth Commission to adopt a joint memorandum of understanding to promote a system of local-level interagency staffing groups to coordinate services for persons needing multiagency services.

(b) Requires the memorandum to meet certain requirements.

(c) Requires the agencies that participate in the formulation of the memorandum of understanding to consult with and solicit input from advocacy and consumer groups.

(d) Requires each agency to adopt the memorandum of understanding and all revisions to the memorandum. Requires the agencies to develop revisions as necessary to reflect major agency reorganizations or statutory changes affecting the agencies.

(e) Requires the agencies to ensure that a state-level interagency staffing group provides

a biennial report to the executive director of each agency, the legislature, and the governor that includes certain stated elements.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 242.801(2), Health and Safety Code, to redefine “community resource coordination group.”

SECTION 3. Repealer: Section 264.003 (Memorandum of Understanding on Services for Multiproblem Children and Youth), Family Code.

SECTION 4. Provides that the memorandum of understanding adopted under Section 264.003, Family Code, as that section existed before repeal by this Act, remains in effect until the memorandum of understanding required by Section 531.055, Government Code, as added by this Act, is adopted and takes effect.

SECTION 5. Effective date: September 1, 2001.