BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center 80R12112 CLG-F

H.B. 3261 By: Chavez (Nelson) Health & Human Services 5/16/2007 Engrossed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

H.B. 3261 requires the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to establish standards for the use of electronic signatures in accordance with the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act, with respect to any transaction, in connection with the administration of health and human services programs, enabling HHSC to reduce paper transactions and streamline processes, both internally and with participating service providers and clients.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Provides that it is the intent of the legislature that the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) use digital or electronic technology, to the greatest extent feasible, to reduce paper transactions, streamline processes, and promote provider participation and client access to services, including the submission of applications, the determination of eligibility, and requests for recertification, redetermination, and appeals.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 531.0055, Government Code, by adding Subsection (m), as follows:

(m) Requires the executive commissioner of HHSC to establish standards for the use of electronic signatures in accordance with the Uniform Electronic Transactions Act (Chapter 43, Business & Commerce Code), with respect to any transaction, as defined by Section 43.002, Business & Commerce Code, in connection with the administration of health and human services programs.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2007.