

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 2252
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Finance
4-29-97
Engrossed

DIGEST

Texas A&M University has built four Centers for Housing and Urban Development (CHUD) in colonias along the U.S. - Mexico border. These centers help colonia residents access services provided by the government, private industry, and nonprofit organizations. CHUDs serve as "one-stop" locations for a variety of social and educational services.

H.B. 2252 would increase funding to a variety of programs that are to be administered by Texas A&M through the Centers for Housing and Urban Development.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 2252 increases funding to a variety of colonia-related programs that are to be administered by Texas A&M through the Centers for Housing and Urban Development.

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 Chapter 40C, Human Resources Code, by adding Section 40.066, as follows:

Sec. 40.066. ACCOUNT FOR PROVISION OF SERVICES TO RESIDENTS OF COLONIA. Requires \$500,000 each fiscal year, of the federal money received by the state for community-based services under programs operated by the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services (department), to be used by the department for community-based colonias as specified. Authorizes money identified in Subsection (a) to be used only to provide community-based services that are eligible for reimbursement from the federal government. Authorizes the department to contract with Texas A&M University for use of these funds in its colonias program to provide services eligible for federal reimbursement. Defines "colonia."

SECTION 2. Amends Chapter 481B, Government Code, by adding Section 481.581, Government Code, by adding Section 481.030, as follows:

Sec. 481.030. ACCOUNT FOR PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS TO ASSIST RESIDENTS OF COLONIA. Requires \$600,000, of the money received by the Department of Commerce under the federal community development block grant program, to be used for certain purposes. Authorizes the Department of Housing and Community Affairs (department), upon approval of Texas A&M University, to contract with one or more counties to assist residents of colonias in the Texas A&M University Colonias Program to provide eligible services described by Subsection (b)(1) that are eligible for federal reimbursement. Authorizes the department to contract with Texas A&M University Colonias Program and a colonia center at the University of Texas-Pan American to provide eligible services described by Subsections (b)(2), (b)(3), and (b)(4), that are eligible for federal reimbursement. Defines "colonia."

SECTION 3. Amends Section 24.005, Parks and Wildlife Code, by adding Subsections (d), (e), and (f), to require the Parks and Wildlife Department (department) to grant at least \$400,000 from the

fund to counties in which colonias exist to provide one-half of the costs of the development of sports or recreational facilities in the colonias. Authorizes a county to meet requirements for financial participation by the use of in-kind or cash contributions. Requires the department to consult with the Texas A&M University Colonias Program for the use of these funds to provide eligible services and projects to assist colonia residents as prescribed by Subsection (d). Defines "colonia."

SECTION 4. Effective date for SECTIONS 1 through 3: September 1, 1997.

SECTION 5. Emergency clause.