

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
77R540 CBH-D

S.B. 45  
By: Zaffirini  
Health and Human Services  
2/12/2001  
As Filed

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

As proposed, S.B. 45 directs the Department of Human Services, the Health and Human Services Commission, and the Texas Workforce Commission to adopt rules prescribing what constitutes a hardship that would warrant an exception to the imposition of time-limited benefits.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

Rulemaking authority is expressly granted to the Texas Department of Human Services, the Health and Human Services Commission, and the Texas Workforce Commission in SECTION 1 (Section 31.0065, Human Resources Code) of this bill.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 31.0065, Human Resources Code, by amending Subsections (a), (e), and (f) and adding subsection (g) to authorize the Texas Department of Human Services (department) to provide financial assistance under this chapter only in accordance with the time limits specified by this section. Authorizes the department, in accordance with federal law, to provide for exceptions to these time limits for reasons of hardship, rather than severe personal hardship or community economic factors preventing the recipient from obtaining employment, or if the state is unable to provide support services. Deletes text regarding establishing criteria that constitutes severe personal hardship. Deletes text regarding economic and employment conditions. Requires the department, the Health and Human Services Commission, and Texas Workforce Commission to jointly adopt rules prescribing what constitutes a hardship under Subsection (a) that would warrant an exception to the imposition of time-limited benefits.

SECTION 2. Requires that, if before implementing any provision of this Act a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a federal agency is necessary for implementation, the state agency request the waiver or authorization and authorizes the delay of implementation of that provision until the waiver or authorization is granted.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2001.

Provides that this Act applies to a person receiving financial assistance on or after the effective date regardless of the date on which the person began receiving that financial assistance.