

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
77R3122 KKA-D

C.S.S.B. 45
By: Zaffirini
Health and Human Services
2/16/2001
Committee Report (Substituted)

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

As proposed, C.S.S.B. 45 directs the Department of Human Services, the Health and Human Services Commission, and the Texas Workforce Commission to jointly 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 31.0066, Human Resources Code) of this bill.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 31A, Human Resources Code, by adding Section 31.0066, as follows:

Sec. 31.0066. **HARDSHIP EXEMPTIONS FROM FEDERAL TIME LIMITS.** (a) Requires the Texas Department of Human Services, the Texas Workforce Commission, and the Health and Human Services Commission to jointly adopt rules prescribing circumstances that constitute a hardship for purposes of exempting a recipient of financial assistance from the application of time limits imposed by federal law on the receipt of benefits. Requires the rules to include a broad range of circumstances that reasonably prevent recipients of financial assistance from becoming self-supporting before expiration of the period of the specified by federal law.

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.

SUMMARY OF COMMITTEE CHANGES

Differs from original by adding Section 31.0066, Human Resources Code regarding hardship exemptions from federal time limits, while the original amends Section 31.0065, Human Resources Code.