

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
77R529 PAM-D

S.B. 55
By: Zaffirini
Health and Human Services
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DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services (PRS) and the Children's Trust Fund (CTF) coordinate programs to prevent Shaken Baby Syndrome, but do not do the same with Sudden Infant Death Syndrome and other infant mortality issues. S.B. 55 requires PRS and CTF develop and implement an infant mortality prevention education program throughout the state, using persons and organizations with specific experience. This bill also allows the use of CTF funds for an infant mortality prevention education program.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

Rulemaking authority is expressly granted to the Board of Protective and Regulatory Services and the Children's Trust Fund of Texas Council in SECTION 1 (Section 40.0523, Human Resources Code) of this bill.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 40C, Human Resources Code, by renumbering Section 40.0523 as Section 40.0524 and adding new Section 40.0523, as follows:

Section 40.0523. INFANT MORTALITY PREVENTION EDUCATION PROGRAM. Requires the Children's Trust Fund of Texas (CTFTC) and the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services (TDPRS) to develop and implement a statewide education program designed to prevent infant mortality. Requires CTFTC and TDPRS to develop a memorandum of understanding of their responsibilities in the program. Requires CTFTC and TDPRS to request the assistance of other entities with specific knowledge of infant mortality prevention. Requires TDPRS and the Board of Protective and Regulatory Services to adopt rules to implement this section. Redesignates Section 40.0523 to Section 40.0524.

SECTION 2. Amends Section 40.061(a), Human Resources Code, to make a conforming change.

SECTION 3. Amends Section 74.006(c), Human Resources Code, to make a conforming change.

SECTION 4. Effective date: September 1, 2001.

Requires the CTFTC and TDPRS to implement the infant mortality prevention program by June 1, 2002.