

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
77R7122 CLG-D

S.B. 834
By: Moncrief
Health & Human Services
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As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

S.B. 834 requires the Health and Human Services Commission to coordinate with the proposed Program Management Office to establish health and human services information on the TexasOnline state Internet portal. This bill requires the Health and Human Services Commission to work with other state agencies and local health and human services providers to continue developing the Internet-based Information and Referral Network to provide information through the TexasOnline portal.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 531B, Government Code, by adding Section 531.0317, as follows:

Sec. 531.0317. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES INFORMATION MADE AVAILABLE THROUGH THE INTERNET. (a) Defines "Internet."

(b) Requires the Health and Human Services Commission (commission), in cooperation with the Department of Information Resources (department), to establish and maintain through the TexasOnline project established by the department a generally accessible and interactive Internet site that contains information for the public regarding the services and programs provided or administered by each of the health and human services agencies throughout the state.

(c) Requires the Internet site to meet certain criteria.

(d) Requires the commission, in designing the Internet site, to comply with any state standards for Internet sites that are prescribed by the department or any other state agency.

(e) Requires each health and human services agency, the Texas Information and Referral Network, and the department to cooperate with the commission to the extent necessary to enable the commission to perform its duties under this section.

(f) Authorizes the department, if the department has a program management office, to delegate its duties under this section to that office.

SECTION 2. Requires the commission, as soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act, to establish the health and human services information Internet site required by Section 531.0317, Government Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2001.