

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
78R2124 JTS-D

S.B. 610
By: Nelson
Health & Human Services
4/2/2003
As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, many rural areas in Texas are facing health provider shortages while urban areas face increasing burdens on their emergency rooms. President Bush has included \$114 million in his proposed budget to increase the number of community health centers. As proposed, S.B. 610 authorizes the Texas Department of Health to provide certain types of grants to establish or expand existing facilities that can qualify as federally qualified health centers.

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 31, Health and Safety Code, by adding Section 31.017, as follows:

Sec. 31.017. **FEDERALLY QUALIFIED HEALTH CENTERS.** (a) Authorizes the Texas Department of Health to make grants to establish new or expand existing facilities that can qualify as federally qualified health centers, as defined by 42 U.S.C. Section 139d(1)(2)(B), in this state, including certain types of grants.

(b) Provides that this section expires September 1, 2009.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2003.