

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
77R1331 JRD-D

S.B. 159
By: Zaffirini
Health & Human Services
2/2/2001
As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, administrative penalties collected by the state from nursing facilities are put in to the general treasury. As proposed, S.B. 159 would enable the state to make grants to facilities that demonstrate “best practices” for improving the quality of life of nursing home residents.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

Rulemaking authority is expressly granted to Texas Department of Human Services in SECTION 1 (Section 242.405, Health and Safety Code) of this bill.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 242K, Health and Safety Code, by adding Section 242.405 as follows:

Sec. 242.405. BEST PRACTICES / QUALITY OF LIFE COMPETITIVE GRANT PROGRAM. Requires the Texas Department of Human Services (department) to establish a best practices/quality of life competitive grant program. Provides that the purpose of the grant program is to pay part of the costs of a project proposed by an institution that is designed to improve the quality of life for residents of the institution and that could serve as a model of best practices for the industry. Requires the department to monitor the expenditure of grant money to ensure that the money is being used for the intended purpose. Authorizes the legislature to appropriate money collected under Section 242.066, including unexpended and unobligated amounts collected under Section 242.066 during a previous state fiscal biennium, to fund the grant program. Requires the department to establish guidelines for the program by rule, including guidelines that specify the procedures for submitting a grant proposal; the criteria the department will follow in evaluating the proposals; and the reports that a grant recipient must file to allow the department and the industry to evaluate the feasibility and success of the project. Requires the department to award each grant under a contract. Authorizes a contract to further detail reports that the grant recipient must file; and monitoring of the project that the grant recipient must allow.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2001.