

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
77R3013 CAS-D

S.B. 597  
By: Shapleigh  
Education  
4/23/2001  
As Filed

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

In 1995, the state became an active partner in financing the costs of facility construction and maintenance. However, the funding formulas that relate to school facilities exist independently of any weights that direct varying amounts of dollars to school districts according to the qualities of the students in each district and the qualities of the district. As proposed, S.B. 597 requires the Texas Education Agency to select an education research group to study the funding of the costs of school construction and maintenance to determine if there is evidence of variable facility costs.

### **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 46A, Education Code, by adding Section 46.012, as follows:

Sec. 46.012. STUDY OF FUNDING OF FACILITIES. Requires the commissioner of education (commissioner), in consultation with the presiding officers of the House Public Education Committee and the Senate Education Committee, to select an educational research group with expertise concerning public school funding to study the funding of facilities necessary to provide a general diffusion of knowledge among public school students. Provides that the study must consider certain items. Requires the commissioner to select an educational research group to perform the study not later than December 1, 2001. Requires the Texas Education Agency to include the results of the study in a specific report. Provides that this section expires December 31, 2002.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2001.