

- SUBJECT:** Long-range state low income housing plan
- COMMITTEE:** Urban Affairs — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 8 ayes — Y. Davis, Alvarado, Fletcher, Gutierrez, Kent, Miklos, Pierson, C. Turner
- 0 nays
- 3 absent — C. Howard, Mallory Caraway, Walle
- WITNESSES:** For — *(Registered, but did not testify:* Noelita Lugo, Texans Care for Children)
- Against — None
- On — Michael Gerber, Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
- BACKGROUND:** Government Code, ch. 2306 establishes the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, the state agency involved in neighborhood redevelopment and providing housing to individuals of low-to-moderate income.
- DIGEST:** HB 3162 would require the director of the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs to submit to the board an integrated state low income housing plan that would cover at least six years and which would establish policy goals and strategies for meeting low-income housing needs on a statewide and regional basis. The director would be required to submit the first such plan no later than March 18, 2010. If the board approved the plan, it would have to submit it to the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the House within 30 days.
- The plan would have to include:
- an estimate and analysis of the housing needs of individuals with moderate, low, very low, and extremely low income, of individuals with special needs with an emphasis on elderly and disabled individuals, and of homeless individuals;

- a proposal to use all available housing resources and establish funding levels to serve the housing needs of the above populations;
- an estimate of the number of federally assisted housing units available in each state service region for individuals with low and very low income and individuals with special needs;
- a description of state programs that govern the use of all available housing resources;
- a resource allocation plan targeted to individuals with low and very low income and individuals with special needs;
- a description of TDHCA's efforts to monitor federal resources given to other state agencies and a recommendation on how to use all available federal resources for housing-related services and services for homeless individuals;
- strategies for providing housing in each state service region for individuals and families with special needs;
- a description of the department's efforts to encourage the construction of housing units that incorporate energy-efficient construction and appliances;
- an estimate and analysis of the housing supply in each state service region;
- an inventory of all publicly-funded housing resources, including public housing authorities, housing finance corporations, community housing development organizations, and community action agencies, and where possible, an inventory of privately funded housing resources;
- strategies for meeting rural housing needs;
- an action plan for colonias that would include current policy goals and strategies and the projected outcomes for those goals, and;
- strategies for eliminating redundant or inefficient practices.

Each housing plan adopted by TDHCA would have to be as consistent as possible with the long-range low income housing plan, and the department director would be allowed to subdivide the uniform state service regions as necessary for carrying out the plan.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2009.