

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
78R2342 CLG-D

S.B. 153  
By: Zaffirini  
Health and Human Services  
2/21/2003  
As Filed

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Currently, the Voucher Payment Program (program) is overseen by the Voucher Payment Program Work Group which was established by S.B. 1586 in the 76th Legislature. The program is only used for two services, respite and personal attendant services, and these services are provided through the Community Based Alternatives Waiver Program, the Community Living Assistance and Support Services Waiver Program, the Client Managed Personal Attendant Services Program, the Deaf Blind with Multiple Disabilities Waiver Program, the Primary Home Care Program, and the In Home and Family Support Program administered by the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation. However, S.B. 1586 provides for the program to include supported employment and “other services that the Health and Human Services Commission, with assistance from the work group, determines are appropriate and applicable and may be provided with available funding.” Extending the expiration date, currently set for September 1, 2003, would allow the work group to assist with the rollout of the program. Adding the Texas Workforce Commission as a partner could help address labor issues that have arisen during the initial rollout of the program. As proposed, S.B. 153 expands the membership of the group, changes the name of the group, and extends the expiration date of the group.

### **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 the heading to Section 531.052, Government Code, to read as follows:

Sec. 531.052. CONSUMER DIRECTED SERVICES WORK GROUP

SECTION 2. Amends Sections 531.052 (b) and (g), Government Code, as follows:

(b) Adds to the composition of the consumer directed services work group representatives of the Texas Workforce Commission, appointed by the executive director of that commission, and representatives of any other state agency as considered necessary by the commissioner of health and human services, appointed by the governing body of their respective agency. Amends the reference to consumers served by the pilot program under Section 22.0325 (Voucher Pilot Project), Human Resources Code, to reflect that that section has been abolished. Makes nonsubstantive changes.

(g) Provides that this section will expire September 1, 2007, rather than September 1, 2003.

SECTION 3. Requires the commissioner of health and human services and the executive director of the Texas Workforce Commission to ensure that, not later than January 1, 2004, the composition of the work group created to assist in implementing the voucher payment program complies with the requirements of Section 531.052, Government Code, as amended by this Act.

SECTION 4. Effective date: September 1, 2003.