BILL ANALYSIS

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, the turnover rate for Child Protective Services (CPS) caseworkers is steadily increasing. Caps on full-time employees prevented the CPS training academy from enrolling enough trainees to fill vacant positions since trainees count toward the full-time employee cap. S.B. 1065 requires the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services to implement a pilot program to assist target regions in increasing the enrollment of CPS caseworkers.

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. DEFINITIONS. Defines "caseworker," "department," "target region," and "target training academy."

SECTION 2. PILOT PROJECT. Requires the Texas Department of Protective and Regulatory Services (DPRS), subject to available funding, to implement a pilot project to assist a target region in continuing to accomplish the goals of the pilot project under Chapter 607, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001.

SECTION 3. DEPARTMENT DUTIES. Requires DPRS, in implementing the pilot project under this Act, to perform certain tasks.

SECTION 4. REPORT. Requires DPRS, not later than December 31, 2004, to submit a report to the legislature regarding the effect of the pilot project under this Act on the retention of caseworkers in each target region in which the pilot project under this Act is implemented. Requires the report to include an assessment of the continuing need for the pilot project and a recommendation on whether the project should be continued. Requires the legislature to consider the report in considering additional legislation to address the need of certain regions of the state for child protective services caseworkers.

SECTION 5. EFFECTIVE DATE. Effective date: September 1, 2003.

SECTION 6. EXPIRATION DATE. Provides that this Act expires September 1, 2005.