

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 64

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the provision of financial assistance to certain legal immigrants.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 31, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Section 31.0015 to read as follows:

Sec. 31.0015. ELIGIBILITY OF CERTAIN LEGAL IMMIGRANTS. The department shall provide financial assistance in accordance with U.S.C. Section 1612(b), as amended, to a person who:

(1) is a qualified alien, as defined by 8 U.S.C. Sections 1641(b) and (c), as amended;

(2) meets the eligibility requirements of the financial assistance program;

(3) entered the United States on or after August 22, 1996; and

(4) has resided in the United States for a period of five years after the date the person entered as a qualified alien.

SECTION 2. If before implementing any provision of this Act a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision, the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the waiver or authorization is granted.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.