

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 67

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the role of the Texas Workforce Commission in
3 addressing housing needs of certain recipients of financial
4 assistance.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 302, Labor Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 302.0036 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 302.0036. HOUSING RESOURCES FOR CERTAIN RECIPIENTS OF
9 FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE. (a) The commission, in cooperation with
10 local workforce development boards, shall, for a recipient of
11 financial assistance participating in an employment program under
12 Chapter 31, Human Resources Code:

13 (1) identify unmet housing needs and assess whether
14 those needs are barriers to the recipient's full participation in
15 the workforce and attainment of financial stability and
16 self-sufficiency; and

17 (2) develop a service plan that takes into
18 consideration the recipient's unmet housing needs.

19 (b) The commission by rule shall develop and implement a
20 program through which a recipient identified under Subsection (a)
21 as having unmet housing needs is referred by the commission or local
22 workforce development board to agencies and organizations
23 providing housing programs and services and connected to other
24 housing resources. To provide those referrals and connections, the

1 commission shall establish collaborative partnerships between:

2 (1) the commission;

3 (2) local workforce development boards;

4 (3) municipal, county, and regional housing
5 authorities; and

6 (4) sponsors of local housing programs and services.

7 (c) The commission shall ensure that commission and local
8 workforce development board staff members receive training
9 regarding the programs and services offered by agencies and
10 organizations with which the commission establishes partnerships
11 under Subsection (b) and other available housing resources.

12 SECTION 2. Not later than December 1, 2003, the Texas
13 Workforce Commission shall develop and implement the program
14 required by Section 302.0036(b), Labor Code, as added by this Act.

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