

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 80TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**February 17, 2007**

**TO:** Honorable Jane Nelson, Chair, Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

**FROM:** John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: SB200** by Nelson (Relating to the expansion of faith- and community-based health and human services initiatives.), **As Introduced**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

Section 1 of the bill requires the Office of the Governor to establish a Texas mentoring initiative to fund activities that create or expand mentoring opportunities, promote responsible fatherhood and healthy marriages, and increase the capacity of faith- and community-based organizations to provide mentoring services.

The grant-making requirement of this section would likely have a cost; it is estimated that any amount appropriated for this section would be expended through grants. However, the Office of the Governor indicates no fiscal impact for this section, and no cost is included.

Section 2 requires the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to establish a searchable Internet database of opportunities throughout the state for volunteers to provide assistance to state agencies in delivering services, and to faith- and community-based organizations that partner with a state agency to provide services.

Section 3 relates to the provision of human services through faith- and community-based organizations. The section requires a number of state agencies to designate liaisons for faith- and community-based organizations and creates an interagency coordinating group composed of these liaisons. The section requires that a center for faith- and community-based initiatives be established within HHSC. The section establishes the Renewing Our Communities Account as an account in the General Revenue Fund that may only be appropriated to HHSC. The section creates the faith- and community-based initiatives advisory committee.

The grant-making requirement of this section would likely have a cost. It is assumed that no funds would be appropriated to the Renewing Our Communities Account; all funds deposited to the account would be from gifts, grants, or donations received for the purpose of the subchapter. It is assumed that any funds deposited to the account would be expended on grants, and that the section would therefore be cost neutral. The amount of funds deposited to and expended from the account cannot be estimated at this time.

The bill may require adjustments to information technology, but it is assumed that any cost could be absorbed within existing resources.

The bill would take effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all members elected to each house; if it does not, the bill would take effect on September 1, 2007.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 529 Health and Human Services Commission, 301 Office of the Governor

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