BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center 82R24814 EES-D

H.B. 2651 By: Phillips (Ellis) Transportation & Homeland Security 5/13/2011 Engrossed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Currently, public providers of transportation services designed for people with disabilities may require individuals who reside outside of the provider's service area but are visiting in the provider's service area to submit certain documents before services can be rendered. Concerned parties report that, because there is little uniformity in processing such documents, visitors may have to wait days or weeks to obtain access to such transportation services. This can hinder a visiting person's ability to move freely in the state. H.B. 2651 seeks to address this issue by requiring public providers of transportation services designed for people with disabilities to determine a visitor's eligibility to use those services within a specific period.

H.B. 2651 amends current law relating to the eligibility of visitors to use certain public transportation services for people with disabilities.

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 Chapter 461, Transportation Code, by adding Section 461.009, as follows:

Sec. 461.009 ELIGIBILITY OF VISITORS TO USE CERTAIN PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION SERVICES FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES. (a) Defines "provider" and "services."

(b) Requires a provider to determine if an individual who resides outside of the provider's service area and who seeks to use the provider's services while visiting the provider's service area is eligible to use the services not later than two business days after the date the individual gives the provider the appropriate notice and submits and required documentation.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2011.