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H.B. No. 608

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to state agency reports on the cost of services and
3 benefits provided to undocumented immigrants.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 2101, Government Code, is
6 amended by adding Section 2101.016 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 2101.016. REPORT OF SERVICES AND BENEFITS PROVIDED TO
8 UNDOCUMENTED IMMIGRANTS. (a) In this section, "undocumented
9 immigrant" means an individual who is not:

10 (1) a United States citizen;

11 (2) a legal permanent resident of the United States;

12 or

13 (3) a qualified alien or nonimmigrant under the
14 Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. Section 1101 et seq.) who
15 is legally present in the United States.

16 (b) Not later than December 31 of each year, each state
17 agency shall submit to the comptroller a report of the cost of
18 services and benefits provided to undocumented immigrants, with the
19 agency determining the extent to which undocumented immigrants are
20 served by the agency by:

21 (1) considering statements and other information
22 provided by the recipient of a service or benefit that identifies
23 the recipient as an undocumented immigrant, including place of
24 birth, registration with the Social Security Administration to the

1 extent that information may be lawfully obtained, and work history;

2 or

3 (2) using an aggregated statistical method developed
4 by the agency if it is not practical for the agency to directly
5 determine whether each recipient of a service or benefit is an
6 undocumented immigrant.

7 (c) The comptroller shall use the information reported
8 under Subsection (b) to produce a biennial report to the
9 legislature regarding the estimated financial impact of
10 undocumented immigrants on the state budget and economy.

11 (d) A report under this section must be produced using
12 aggregated statistical data that does not contain personally
13 identifiable information. Information sought for the preparation
14 of a report under this section may not violate any federal or state
15 laws, including rules, regarding privacy.

16 SECTION 2. Section 2101.016, Government Code, as added by
17 this Act, applies only in relation to an application for a service
18 or benefit that is made on or after the effective date of this Act.

19 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.