

By: West

S.B. No. 1643

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the placement of children with certain relatives or  
3 other designated caregivers.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 31.0041, Human Resources Code is  
6 amended by adding subsection (b), to read as follows:

7 Sec. 31.0041. SUPPLEMENTAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR  
8 CERTAIN PERSONS. (a) To the extent funds are appropriated for  
9 this purpose, the department may provide supplemental financial  
10 assistance in addition to the amount of financial assistance  
11 granted for the support of a dependent child under Section 31.003 to  
12 a person who:

- 13 (1) is 45 years of age or older;
- 14 (2) is the grandparent of the dependent child, as  
15 defined by Section 31.002, who lives at the person's residence;
- 16 (3) is the primary caretaker of the dependent child;
- 17 (4) has a family income that is at or below 200 percent  
18 of the federal poverty level; and
- 19 (5) does not have resources that exceed the amount  
20 allowed for financial assistance under this chapter.

21 (b) Supplemental financial assistance provided to a person  
22 under this section may include one or more cash payments, not to  
23 exceed a total of \$1,000 for each child. The payment for placement  
24 of a sibling group must be a least \$1,000 for the group, but may not

1 exceed \$1,000 for each child in the group after determination of  
2 eligibility for supplemental financial assistance under this  
3 section.

4         SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
6 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
8 Act takes effect August 31, 2015.