



852161

17 MAY 17 PM 12:42

FLOOR AMENDMENT NO.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

BY:

Dukes

1 Amend C.S.S.B. No. 11 (house committee printing) by adding
2 the following appropriately numbered SECTION to the bill and
3 renumbering the remaining SECTIONS of the bill as appropriate:

4 SECTION __. Subchapter C, Chapter 40, Human Resources
5 Code, is amended by adding Section 40.0508 to read as follows:

6 Sec. 40.0508. DIVISION FOR ELIMINATION OF
7 DISPROPORTIONALITY AND DISPARITIES. (a) The commissioner shall
8 maintain a division for elimination of disproportionality and
9 disparities in the department to:

10 (1) assume a leadership role in working or
11 contracting with state and federal agencies, universities,
12 private interest groups, communities, foundations, and offices
13 of minority services to develop initiatives to decrease or
14 eliminate disparities in access to child welfare services among
15 racial, multicultural, disadvantaged, ethnic, and regional
16 populations, including appropriate language services; and

17 (2) maximize use of existing resources without
18 duplicating existing efforts.

19 (b) The division may:

20 (1) provide a central information and referral
21 source, including a clearinghouse for disparities information,
22 and serve as the primary state resource in coordinating,
23 planning, and advocating access to child welfare services to
24 eliminate disparities in this state;

25 (2) coordinate conferences and other training
26 opportunities to increase skills among state agencies and
27 government staff in management and in the appreciation of
28 cultural diversity;

29 (3) pursue and administer grant funds for innovative

1 projects for communities, groups, and individuals;

2 (4) provide recommendations and training in improving
3 minority recruitment in state agencies;

4 (5) publicize information regarding disparities in
5 access to child welfare services through the use of the media;

6 (6) network with existing minority organizations,
7 community-based child welfare services groups, and statewide
8 child welfare services coalitions;

9 (7) solicit, receive, and spend grants, gifts, and
10 donations from public and private sources; and

11 (8) contract with public and private entities in the
12 performance of its responsibilities.

13 (c) In performing its duties under this section, the
14 department shall use the expertise of the members and employees
15 of the center for elimination of disproportionality and
16 disparities.