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| BILL ANALYSIS |

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| H.B. 2514 |
| By: Martinez |
| Juvenile Justice & Family Issues |
| Committee Report (Unamended) |

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| **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE** There are concerns about a shortage of qualified individuals to perform a child custody evaluation in certain counties in the Rio Grande Valley. H.B. 2514 seeks to address these concerns by expanding the applicability of a provision authorizing a court to appoint a child custody evaluator who does not meet the applicable minimum qualifications if an evaluator who meets those qualifications is unavailable. |
| **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision. |
| **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY** It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution. |
| **ANALYSIS** H.B. 2514 amends the Family Code to expand the applicability of a provision authorizing a court in a county with a population of less than 500,000 to appoint a child custody evaluator who does not meet the applicable minimum qualifications if an evaluator who meets those qualifications is not available to include a county that borders the United Mexican States and is contiguous to the Gulf of Mexico or a bay or inlet opening into the gulf and a county that borders such a county.  |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE** September 1, 2019 |