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et al.

H.B. No. 1979

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the powers and duties of the Texas Workforce Commission
3 and local workforce development boards regarding the provision of
4 child care.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 2308.256(a), Government Code, is amended
7 to read as follows:

8 (a) A board is composed as follows:

9 (1) representatives of the private sector, who:

10 (A) constitute a majority of the membership of
11 the board; and

12 (B) are owners of business concerns, chief
13 executives or chief operating officers of nongovernmental
14 employers, or other private sector executives who have substantial
15 management or policy responsibilities, including owners or
16 operators of child-care businesses who must constitute not less
17 than 10 percent of private sector representatives on the board;

18 (2) representatives of organized labor and
19 community-based organizations, who constitute not less than 15
20 percent of the membership of the board; and

21 (3) representatives of each of the following:

22 (A) educational agencies, including community
23 colleges and secondary and postsecondary practitioners
24 representing vocational education, that are representative of all

1 educational agencies in the service delivery area;

2 (B) vocational rehabilitation agencies;

3 (C) public assistance agencies;

4 (D) economic development agencies;

5 (E) the public employment service;

6 (F) local literacy councils; ~~and~~

7 (G) adult basic and continuing education
8 organizations; and

9 (H) the child-care workforce, including persons
10 with expertise in child care or early childhood education who are
11 not included in the representatives described by Subdivision
12 (1)(B).

13 SECTION 2. Section 2308.3171, Government Code, is amended
14 by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (c-1) to read as
15 follows:

16 (c) Each board shall post in a prominent place on the
17 board's Internet website home page and at any physical location
18 where the board provides services:

19 (1) a list of local designated vendors that are
20 child-care providers and have a quality child-care indicator listed
21 in Subsection (a)(1), (2), (3), or (4); ~~and~~

22 (2) a list of local parenting classes;

23 (3) information for parents regarding finding quality
24 child-care providers;

25 (4) information regarding the value of quality child
26 care and the Texas Rising Star Program;

27 (5) information for parents regarding:

1 (A) eligibility for child-care assistance,
2 including subsidized child-care services and other child-care
3 scholarships;

4 (B) the application process for child-care
5 assistance; and

6 (C) determining the status of a financial
7 assistance application;

8 (6) information for child-care providers regarding:

9 (A) the process for accepting children whose
10 parents receive child-care assistance; and

11 (B) the Texas Rising Star Program certification
12 process; and

13 (7) contact information, including a telephone number
14 and an e-mail address, where a child-care provider may receive
15 assistance with questions or bring a grievance.

16 (c-1) Each local workforce development board shall make the
17 following information available to the public on a quarterly basis:

18 (1) data regarding child-care waitlists, including
19 the number of children in the board's workforce development area
20 who are:

21 (A) on a waitlist, disaggregated by age and zip
22 code based on the child's home address;

23 (B) taken off a waitlist and enrolled with a
24 child-care provider under the subsidized child-care program; and

25 (C) added to a waitlist during the quarter;

26 (2) the number of children in the board's workforce
27 development area receiving subsidized child care, disaggregated by

1 zip code based on the child's home address;

2 (3) data regarding child-care providers, including
3 the number of providers in the board's workforce development area
4 who during the quarter:

5 (A) improved the provider's Texas Rising Star
6 Program rating level;

7 (B) had the provider's Texas Rising Star Program
8 rating level decrease; and

9 (C) received quality dollars from the board; and

10 (4) data regarding the outcomes related to quality
11 dollars provided by the board to child-care providers in the
12 board's workforce development area.

13 SECTION 3. Subchapter [A](#), Chapter [302](#), Labor Code, is
14 amended by adding Section 302.00434 to read as follows:

15 Sec. 302.00434. SUBSIDIZED CHILD-CARE PROGRAM; RULE CHANGE
16 POLICY. (a) The commission shall develop appropriate training and
17 provide the training to local workforce development boards and
18 persons who contract with a board to provide services related to the
19 subsidized child-care program.

20 (b) The commission shall develop a reasonable timeline for
21 implementing each change the commission makes to:

22 (1) the rules regarding the subsidized child-care
23 program; and

24 (2) the allocation of funds under the subsidized
25 child-care program.

26 SECTION 4. Subchapter [A](#), Chapter [302](#), Labor Code, is
27 amended by adding Section 302.0063 to read as follows:

1 Sec. 302.0063. CHILD-CARE PERFORMANCE TARGETS. (a) The
2 commission shall establish child-care performance targets in a
3 manner that accounts for cost differentials related to providing
4 child-care services to various populations. In setting the
5 performance targets, the commission shall consider:

6 (1) the total number of children served by child-care
7 providers in a board's workforce development area;

8 (2) the number of children served by Texas Rising Star
9 Program providers in a board's workforce development area with a
10 two-star, three-star, or four-star rating;

11 (3) the needs and ages of children served by
12 child-care providers in a board's workforce development area;

13 (4) the types of providers commonly selected by
14 parents in a board's workforce development area; and

15 (5) any other factors determined necessary by the
16 commission, including data-driven factors provided to the
17 commission by a board.

18 (b) The commission shall, at least once every six months
19 during the performance period, review the commission's child-care
20 performance targets and funding based on those targets and make
21 adjustments based on the cost differentials the commission used at
22 the time the performance targets were initially set.

23 SECTION 5. Section [2308.256\(g\)](#), Government Code, is
24 repealed.

25 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.