

By: Shaheen

H.B. No. 4956

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to monthly reports of certain activity of the Department
3 of Family and Protective Services.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 264.017, Family Code, is amended by
6 adding Subsections (f), (g), and (h) to read as follows:

7 (f) In addition to the other reports required by this
8 section, the department shall publish a monthly report containing
9 the following information for the preceding month:

10 (1) with respect to statewide intake:

11 (A) the number of child abuse, neglect, or
12 exploitation reports received sorted by the source of the report;

13 (B) the number of child abuse, neglect, or
14 exploitation reports that met the statutory definition of child
15 abuse, neglect, or exploitation that were referred for
16 investigation sorted by the type of allegation and the number of
17 reports that were confirmed as abuse, neglect, or exploitation
18 after an investigation;

19 (C) the average time to process an electronic
20 report of child abuse, neglect, or exploitation;

21 (D) the average hold time for calls to the
22 department's abuse hotline;

23 (E) information regarding calls to the
24 department's abuse hotline that were placed by a parent, including:

- 1 (i) the number of calls;
2 (ii) the person or division in the
3 department to which each call was routed; and
4 (iii) the number of calls classified by the
5 department as an information and referral report; and
6 (F) the percentage of calls to the department's
7 abuse hotline that were abandoned before the caller spoke with a
8 person;
9 (2) with respect to child protective investigations:
10 (A) the total number of cases opened;
11 (B) the total number of cases completed and
12 closed sorted by the manner in which the case was closed;
13 (C) the average number of days to close a case
14 that is assigned an investigation;
15 (D) the total number of cases opened at
16 residential child-care facilities;
17 (E) the total number of cases classified as
18 alternative response cases by the department;
19 (F) the total number of alternative response
20 cases that are later opened for a traditional investigation;
21 (G) the average number of days to close a case
22 that is classified as an alternative response case by the
23 department;
24 (H) the total percentage of cases assigned the
25 highest and second highest priorities the investigations of which
26 were started within the time required by Section 261.301;
27 (I) the total number of cases for which the

1 determination was changed after an administrative review within 12
2 months of the date of the determination;

3 (J) the percentage of alleged victims in
4 investigations that were closed without providing services for
5 which, within 12 months of the date the case was closed, the
6 department:

7 (i) confirmed another allegation of abuse,
8 neglect, or exploitation against the child; or

9 (ii) opened another stage for services; and

10 (K) the total number of children removed from
11 their home sorted by the reason for removal or allegation type;

12 (3) with respect to family-based safety services:

13 (A) the total number of cases opened, sorted by
14 cases in which the parent is receiving services from the
15 department:

16 (i) voluntarily; or

17 (ii) under a court order;

18 (B) the total number of cases closed;

19 (C) the average number of days to close a case;

20 (D) the percentage of cases in which a child was
21 eventually removed from the child's home; and

22 (E) the percentage of cases which were closed
23 without providing further services for which, within 12 months of
24 the date the case was closed, the department:

25 (i) confirmed another allegation of abuse,
26 neglect, or exploitation against the child; or

27 (ii) opened another stage for services;

- 1 (4) with respect to conservatorship services:
- 2 (A) the total number of children removed from
3 their home;
- 4 (B) the total number of children who exited from
5 the managing conservatorship of the department sorted by the manner
6 in which the child exited;
- 7 (C) the average number of months a child remained
8 in the managing conservatorship of the department;
- 9 (D) the average number of placements a child has
10 while in the managing conservatorship of the department;
- 11 (E) the percentage of sibling groups placed with
12 the same foster family;
- 13 (F) the percentage of youth who have aged out of
14 foster care and completed the Preparation for Adult Living program;
- 15 (G) the percentage of youth who exited from the
16 managing conservatorship of the department to a permanent
17 placement;
- 18 (H) the percentage of children who are adopted
19 within 12 months of the date their parent's parental rights were
20 terminated;
- 21 (I) the percentage of children in the managing
22 conservatorship of the department for longer than two years who
23 achieve permanency;
- 24 (J) the percentage of children who are returned
25 to their parents and for whom, within 12 months of the date the case
26 was closed, the department:
- 27 (i) confirmed another allegation of abuse,

1 neglect, or exploitation against the child; or

2 (ii) opened another stage for services;

3 (K) the percentage of children in the managing
4 conservatorship of the department who are placed with a relative
5 caregiver;

6 (L) the percentage of children in foster care
7 placed in each county in the state; and

8 (M) the performance and outcomes of
9 community-based care sorted by catchment area;

10 (5) with respect to residential child-care licensing:

11 (A) the number of validated allegations of child
12 abuse, neglect, or exploitation in child-care facilities; and

13 (6) with respect to parental child safety placement
14 agreements:

15 (A) the number of children placed under a
16 parental child safety placement agreement;

17 (B) the average duration of a placement under a
18 parental child safety placement agreement;

19 (C) the average duration of a placement under a
20 parental child safety placement agreement during an investigation;
21 and

22 (D) the percentage of children removed from a
23 placement under a parental child safety placement agreement and
24 placed in the managing conservatorship of the department.

25 (g) The department shall provide the report required by
26 Subsection (f) to the legislature and shall publish the report and
27 make the report available electronically to the public not later

1 than the 30th day after the end of the month for which the report is
2 made.

3 (h) The department may contract with a third party to assist
4 the department with collecting, analyzing, and reporting the data
5 required under Subsection (f). The third party must:

6 (1) be a Texas-based university;

7 (2) be independent of the department; and

8 (3) have demonstrated expertise in statistical,
9 financial, actuarial, logistical, and operational analysis.

10 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.