

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
78R636 SMJ-D

S.B. 492
By: Shapleigh
Health & Human Services
3/10/2003
As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, the state provides mental health services to children. However, these services are often provided by entities such as Child Protective Services, because many children are unable to access treatment in more appropriate settings. In order to better meet the growing need for mental health services and to maximize the use of state dollars, the coordination of all publicly funded children's mental health programs is critical. As proposed, S.B. 492 would require the Health and Human Services Commission to review and evaluate all sources of public funding for programs in this state that provide mental health services to children.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Requires the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to review and evaluate all sources of public funding for programs in this state that provide mental health services to children, including programs provided by the juvenile justice system, the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services, the Texas Council on Offenders with Mental Impairments, and the Texas Education Agency.

(b) Requires the evaluation to describe each program and the services it provides, the sources of funding for the program, and the purposes for which funds are used. Requires the evaluation to include certain information.

(c) Requires HHSC to report on the results of the evaluation to the 79th Legislature not later than January 11, 2005.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2003.