

By: Villarreal

H.B. No. 455

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study regarding certain child-care initiatives.

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

SECTION 1. STUDY AND REPORT ON CHILD-CARE INITIATIVES. (a)

The Health and Human Services Commission shall study and produce a comprehensive report on state and local initiatives and collaborative initiatives targeted at enhancing the quality of child care, including initiatives funded from public or private sources.

(b) The commission shall work in conjunction with the Texas Workforce Commission and the Department of Protective and Regulatory Services in studying the initiatives and producing the report.

(c) The commission shall coordinate the efforts under this section with the activities of the Office of Early Childhood Coordination, particularly as those efforts relate to the development of the statewide strategic plan required under Section 531.284, Government Code.

(d) The report must:

(1) include a description of each initiative's activity, including:

(A) factors relevant to the initiative's success; and

(B) the amount and sources of the initiative's

1 funding;

2 (2) describe programmatic best practices as models for
3 replication statewide; and

4 (3) establish statewide benchmarks for quality child
5 care.

6 (e) The commission shall submit the report to the governor,
7 the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of
8 representatives, and the presiding officers of appropriate
9 legislative committees not later than September 1, 2004.

10 SECTION 2. EXPIRATION DATE. This Act expires September 1,
11 2005.

12 SECTION 3. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect
13 immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members
14 elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas
15 Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for
16 immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2003.