

By: Truitt

H.B. No. 3124

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the powers and duties of the Texas Rehabilitation  
3 Commission.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 111.052, Human Resources Code, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 Sec. 111.052. GENERAL FUNCTIONS. (a) The commission  
8 shall, to the extent of resources available and priorities  
9 established by the board, provide rehabilitation services directly  
10 or through public or private resources to individuals determined by  
11 the commission to be eligible for the services under a vocational  
12 rehabilitation program[~~, an extended rehabilitation services~~  
13 ~~program,~~] or other program established to provide rehabilitative  
14 services.

15 (b) In carrying out the purposes of this chapter, the  
16 commission may:

17 (1) cooperate with other departments, agencies,  
18 political subdivisions, and institutions, both public and private,  
19 in providing the services authorized by this chapter to eligible  
20 individuals, in studying the problems involved, and in planning,  
21 establishing, developing, and providing necessary or desirable  
22 programs, facilities, and services, including those jointly  
23 administered with state agencies;

24 (2) enter into reciprocal agreements with other

1 states;

2 (3) establish or construct rehabilitation facilities  
3 and workshops, contract with or provide grants to agencies,  
4 organizations, or individuals as necessary to implement this  
5 chapter, make contracts or other arrangements with public and other  
6 nonprofit agencies, organizations, or institutions for the  
7 establishment of workshops and rehabilitation facilities, and  
8 operate facilities for carrying out the purposes of this chapter;

9 (4) conduct research and compile statistics relating  
10 to the provision of services to or the need for services by disabled  
11 individuals;

12 (5) provide for the establishment, supervision,  
13 management, and control of small business enterprises to be  
14 operated by individuals with significant disabilities where their  
15 operation will be improved through the management and supervision  
16 of the commission;

17 (6) contract with schools, hospitals, private  
18 industrial firms, and other agencies and with doctors, nurses,  
19 technicians, and other persons for training, physical restoration,  
20 transportation, and other rehabilitation services; and

21 (7) assess the statewide need for services necessary  
22 to prepare students with disabilities for a successful transition  
23 to employment, establish collaborative relationships with each  
24 school district with education service centers to the maximum  
25 extent possible within available resources, and develop strategies  
26 to assist vocational rehabilitation counselors in identifying and  
27 reaching students in need of transition planning [~~contract with a~~

1 ~~public or private agency to provide and pay for rehabilitative~~  
2 ~~services under the extended rehabilitation services program,~~  
3 ~~including alternative sheltered employment or community integrated~~  
4 ~~employment for a person participating in the program].~~

5 SECTION 2. Sections 111.002(7), 111.0525(a), and 111.073,  
6 Human Resources Code, are repealed.

7 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.