

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 60

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the provision of public mental health and related services for persons needing the services of more than one agency.

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

SECTION 1. PROVISION OF SERVICES FOR PERSONS WITH MULTIAGENCY NEEDS. Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by adding Subchapter K to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER K. PROVISION OF SERVICES FOR PERSONS

WITH MULTIAGENCY NEEDS

Sec. 531.401. DEFINITIONS. (a) In this subchapter:

(1) "Systems of care agency" includes each health and human services agency, the Health and Human Services Commission, the Texas Council on Offenders with Mental Impairments, the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs, the Texas Education Agency, the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission, the Texas Workforce Commission, and the Texas Youth Commission.

(2) "Systems of care services" means a comprehensive state system of mental health services and other necessary and related services that is organized as a coordinated network to meet the multiple and changing needs of persons who receive those services and of their families.

(b) Persons who receive systems of care services include children at risk of residential placement, incarceration, or reincarceration because of a severe emotional disturbance,

1 including:

2 (1) students in a special education program under  
3 Subchapter A, Chapter 29, Education Code; and

4 (2) children with a severe emotional disturbance and:

5 (A) a substance abuse disorder; or

6 (B) a developmental disability.

7 Sec. 531.402. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP. (a) The  
8 systems of care executive council is composed of 21 members as  
9 described by this section.

10 (b) The commissioner of health and human services and the  
11 commissioner of education serve as ex officio members. Service on  
12 the systems of care executive council is an additional duty of the  
13 positions of those commissioners. The ex officio members have  
14 voting authority.

15 (c) The commissioner of health and human services shall  
16 appoint 12 members, each of whom must be the administrative head of  
17 a systems of care agency.

18 (d) The governor shall appoint two members, one of whom must  
19 be appointed from a list of nominees submitted to the governor by  
20 the speaker of the house of representatives. The governor may  
21 reject one or more of the nominees on the list. If the governor  
22 rejects all the nominees on the list, the speaker shall submit to  
23 the governor a new list of different nominees.

24 (e) The lieutenant governor shall appoint one member.

25 (f) The commissioner of health and human services and the  
26 commissioner of education, acting jointly, shall appoint the  
27 following members:

1           (1) one member who must be a judge of a state juvenile  
2 court;

3           (2) one member who must be a representative of a group  
4 that advocates on behalf of at least one of the population groups  
5 served by a systems of care agency;

6           (3) one member who must be a representative of a group  
7 that advocates on behalf of family members of at least one of the  
8 population groups served by a systems of care agency; and

9           (4) one member who must be a representative of a group  
10 that advocates on behalf of local communities affected by the  
11 decisions of at least one systems of care agency.

12           (g) The appointed members of the systems of care executive  
13 council serve two-year terms expiring February 1 of each  
14 odd-numbered year.

15           Sec. 531.403. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OFFICERS; MEETINGS. (a)  
16 The systems of care executive council shall elect from its members a  
17 presiding officer, an assistant presiding officer, and other  
18 officers the council considers necessary to perform the council's  
19 duties. The assistant presiding officer shall preside over  
20 meetings in the presiding officer's absence.

21           (b) The systems of care executive council shall meet at  
22 least three times each year at the call of the presiding officer.

23           Sec. 531.404. EXECUTIVE COUNCIL DUTIES. The systems of  
24 care executive council shall:

25           (1) approve and oversee the implementation of program  
26 and fiscal policies developed by the systems of care policy team;

27           (2) review and take appropriate action on

1 recommendations that the policy team presents to the council;

2 (3) approve and oversee the actions of the policy  
3 team, systems of care community teams, and systems of care  
4 coordination and assessment teams;

5 (4) ensure that systems of care agencies have adequate  
6 administrative support to provide systems of care services;

7 (5) oversee the distribution and use of funding for  
8 systems of care services; and

9 (6) issue a biennial report to the governor, the  
10 senate, and the house of representatives that includes:

11 (A) legislative proposals relating to systems of  
12 care services; and

13 (B) an evaluation of the provision of systems of  
14 care services.

15 Sec. 531.405. POLICY TEAM MEMBERSHIP AND OFFICERS;  
16 MEETINGS. (a) The systems of care policy team is composed of the  
17 following members who are appointed by the systems of care  
18 executive council and serve at the will of the executive council:

19 (1) one or more members of the senior staff of each  
20 systems of care agency;

21 (2) the judge of a juvenile or domestic relations  
22 court;

23 (3) a representative of an organization whose  
24 membership is composed primarily of persons representing county  
25 governments; and

26 (4) one or more representatives of:

27 (A) an organization that supports families of

1 persons with mental illness;

2 (B) a private organization that provides  
3 services to persons with mental illness;

4 (C) a group that advocates on behalf of:

5 (i) at least one of the population groups  
6 served by a systems of care agency; or

7 (ii) family members of at least one of the  
8 population groups served by a systems of care agency; and

9 (D) local communities affected by the decisions  
10 of at least one systems of care agency.

11 (b) Each member of the systems of care policy team appointed  
12 under Subsection (a)(4)(A) must also be a member of the family of a  
13 person with mental illness.

14 (c) The systems of care policy team shall elect from its  
15 members a presiding officer, an assistant presiding officer, and  
16 other officers the policy team considers necessary to perform the  
17 policy team's duties. The assistant presiding officer shall  
18 preside over meetings in the presiding officer's absence.

19 (d) The systems of care policy team shall meet at least once  
20 in each quarter of the calendar year at the call of the presiding  
21 officer.

22 Sec. 531.406. POLICY TEAM DUTIES. The systems of care  
23 policy team shall:

24 (1) develop policies for integrating the services  
25 provided to persons who need the services of more than one systems  
26 of care agency;

27 (2) develop procedures for distributing and

1 monitoring the use of funds for systems of care services;

2 (3) develop methods for collecting, analyzing, and  
3 reporting data that can be used by each systems of care agency to  
4 evaluate systems of care services;

5 (4) develop methods that the systems of care executive  
6 council and each systems of care agency can use to evaluate:

7 (A) the provision of systems of care services;  
8 and

9 (B) the outcome of those services for the persons  
10 who receive them;

11 (5) make recommendations to the systems of care  
12 executive council regarding policies, procedures, and methods  
13 developed under this section;

14 (6) provide training for and technical assistance to  
15 governmental entities involved in providing systems of care  
16 services;

17 (7) establish work groups to study issues relating to  
18 the implementation of this subchapter and the provision of systems  
19 of care services and submit the recommendations of those groups to  
20 the systems of care executive council;

21 (8) issue a biennial report to the systems of care  
22 executive council that evaluates the provision of systems of care  
23 services using the methods developed under this section and  
24 includes:

25 (A) the number of persons who received systems of  
26 care services during the reporting period and the outcome of the  
27 services provided;

1                   (B) recommendations for improving the  
2 coordination of:

3                   (i) funding for systems of care services;  
4 and

5                   (ii) the provision of services by systems  
6 of care agencies;

7                   (C) a description of any barriers to the ability  
8 of a systems of care agency to provide effective systems of care  
9 services and recommendations for overcoming those barriers; and

10                   (D) any other information relevant to improving  
11 the provision of services to persons with multiagency needs; and

12                   (9) perform other duties that the systems of care  
13 executive council may assign.

14                   Sec. 531.407. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT FROM COMMISSION. The  
15 commission shall provide administrative support to the systems of  
16 care executive council and policy team to assist the executive  
17 council and policy team in performing their duties.

18                   Sec. 531.408. SELECTION OF AREAS SERVED BY COMMUNITY TEAMS.  
19 (a) The commission by rule shall establish a request-for-proposal  
20 process to select a municipality, a county, or two or more  
21 contiguous counties as an area served by a systems of care community  
22 team described by Section 531.409. The process must provide that  
23 one or more representatives of a governmental entity in a  
24 municipality or county may submit a proposal.

25                   (b) The commission and the systems of care policy team shall  
26 develop criteria to evaluate proposals for areas to be served by  
27 systems of care community teams.

1       Sec. 531.409. COMMUNITY TEAM MEMBERSHIP. A systems of care  
2 community team is composed of the following members who are  
3 appointed by the representatives who submit a proposal for the team  
4 under Section 531.408(a) and serve at the will of those  
5 representatives:

6           (1) one or more representatives from a systems of care  
7 agency office that is located in a municipality or county in an area  
8 selected to be served by a community team;

9           (2) one or more representatives of the governing body  
10 of that municipality or county;

11           (3) the judge of a juvenile or domestic relations  
12 court; and

13           (4) one or more representatives of:

14                   (A) an organization that supports families of  
15 persons with mental illness;

16                   (B) a private organization that provides  
17 services to persons with mental illness;

18                   (C) a group that advocates on behalf of:

19                           (i) at least one of the population groups  
20 served by a systems of care agency; or

21                           (ii) family members of at least one of the  
22 population groups served by a systems of care agency; and

23                   (D) local communities affected by the decisions  
24 of at least one systems of care agency.

25       Sec. 531.410. COMMUNITY TEAM POWERS AND DUTIES. (a) A  
26 systems of care community team shall:

27           (1) establish procedures for:



1           (A) referring persons and their families to the  
2 systems of care coordination and assessment team; and

3           (B) authorizing funding for services that those  
4 persons and their families may receive;

5           (2) monitor the provision of services to persons  
6 needing the services of more than one systems of care agency; and

7           (3) collect, analyze, and monitor data that relates to  
8 systems of care services and report that analysis to the systems of  
9 care policy team.

10          (b) The systems of care community team may designate one or  
11 more persons to provide support services to a person who is referred  
12 to the systems of care coordination and assessment team and the  
13 person's family. Those support services are in addition to the  
14 services provided in the plan described by Section 531.411(b)(1).

15          (c) A systems of care community team member described by  
16 Section 531.409(1) may use resources from the agency that the  
17 member represents to address problems identified by the community  
18 team or by the systems of care policy team.

19          (d) At the request of the systems of care community team,  
20 the commission shall designate one or more employees of the  
21 commission to assist the team in carrying out the team's duties.

22          Sec. 531.411. COORDINATION AND ASSESSMENT TEAM MEMBERSHIP;  
23 DUTIES. (a) A systems of care coordination and assessment team is  
24 composed of a number of members who are appointed by a systems of  
25 care community team and serve at the will of the community team.

26          (b) The systems of care coordination and assessment team  
27 shall:

1           (1) develop and implement a plan for providing  
2 services from systems of care agencies to a person who is referred  
3 to the team and the person's family;

4           (2) collect, analyze, and monitor data that relates to  
5 systems of care services provided to persons referred to the team  
6 and their families and report that analysis to the systems of care  
7 community team; and

8           (3) perform other duties that the systems of care  
9 community team may assign.

10           Sec. 531.412. TEAM ACTIONS SUBJECT TO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL  
11 APPROVAL. The actions of the systems of care policy team, a  
12 systems of care community team, and a systems of care coordination  
13 and assessment team are subject to approval by the systems of care  
14 executive council.

15           Sec. 531.413. REIMBURSEMENT FOR EXPENSES. (a) An appointed  
16 member of the systems of care executive council, the systems of care  
17 policy team, a systems of care community team, or a systems of care  
18 coordination and assessment team may not receive compensation for  
19 service on the council or team but is entitled to reimbursement of  
20 the travel expenses incurred by the member while conducting the  
21 business of the council or team, as provided by the General  
22 Appropriations Act.

23           (b) The reimbursement may be paid from:

24           (1) available funds of the systems of care agency with  
25 which the member is employed or that the member represents, in the  
26 case of a person whose membership on the council or team is a result  
27 of being an employee or representative of that agency; or

1           (2) available funds of the commission, in the case of  
2 other members of the council or team.

3           Sec. 531.414. SYSTEMS OF CARE TRUST FUND. The systems of  
4 care trust fund is created as a trust fund with the comptroller and  
5 shall be administered by the Health and Human Services Commission  
6 as a trustee on behalf of the systems of care agencies.

7           Sec. 531.415. EXPANSION OF SYSTEMS OF CARE SERVICES; MERGER  
8 OF LOCAL GROUPS. (a) The systems of care executive council shall  
9 develop a plan for the statewide expansion of systems of care  
10 services and teams where needed in accordance with this subchapter.  
11 The plan must provide for:

12           (1) merging an area served by a community resource  
13 coordination group established under a memorandum of understanding  
14 under Section 531.055, as added by Chapter 114, Acts of the 77th  
15 Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, into an area served by a  
16 systems of care community team; and

17           (2) completing the expansion on or before September 1,  
18 2011.

19           (b) A reference in another statute to a systems of care  
20 community team includes within its meaning a community resource  
21 coordination group established under a memorandum of understanding  
22 under Section 531.055, as added by Chapter 114, Acts of the 77th  
23 Legislature, Regular Session, 2001.

24           (c) A reference in another statute to a community resource  
25 coordination group established under a memorandum of understanding  
26 under Section 531.055, as added by Chapter 114, Acts of the 77th  
27 Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, includes within its meaning a

1 systems of care community team.

2 (d) This section expires September 1, 2011.

3 Sec. 531.416. MERGER OF TEXAS INTEGRATED FUNDING  
4 INITIATIVE. (a) The systems of care policy team shall develop and  
5 implement a plan to merge each site participating in the Texas  
6 Integrated Funding Initiative under former Subchapter G, Chapter  
7 531, as added by Chapter 446, Acts of the 76th Legislature, Regular  
8 Session, 1999, into an area served by a systems of care community  
9 team.

10 (b) The plan must provide for the merger to be complete not  
11 later than September 1, 2011. The plan also must ensure that:

12 (1) the same population groups served under the Texas  
13 Integrated Funding Initiative are served under this subchapter; and

14 (2) the availability and quality of services provided  
15 to those population groups do not decrease.

16 (c) This section expires September 1, 2011.

17 SECTION 2. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING TO IMPLEMENT  
18 PROVISION OF MULTIAGENCY SERVICES. Section 531.055, Government  
19 Code, as added by Chapter 114, Acts of the 77th Legislature, Regular  
20 Session, 2001, is amended to read as follows:

21 Sec. 531.055. MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE PROVISION  
22 OF SERVICES FOR PERSONS NEEDING MULTIAGENCY SERVICES. (a) In this  
23 section, "systems of care agency" and "systems of care services"  
24 have the meanings assigned by Section 531.401.

25 (b) Each systems of care [~~health and human services~~]  
26 agency[~~, the Texas Council on Offenders with Mental Impairments,~~  
27 ~~the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, the Texas Department of~~

1 ~~Housing and Community Affairs, the Texas Education Agency, the~~  
2 ~~Texas Workforce Commission, and the Texas Youth Commission]~~ shall  
3 adopt a joint memorandum of understanding to establish [~~promote~~] a  
4 system in accordance with Subchapter K that coordinates the  
5 provision of [~~local-level interagency staffing groups to~~  
6 ~~coordinate~~] services for persons needing multiagency services.

7 (c) [~~(b)~~] The memorandum must:

8 (1) clarify the statutory responsibilities of each  
9 agency in relation to persons needing multiagency services,  
10 including subcategories for different services such as prevention,  
11 family preservation and strengthening, aging in place, emergency  
12 shelter, diagnosis and evaluation, residential care, after-care,  
13 information and referral, medical care, and investigation  
14 services;

15 (2) include a functional definition of "persons  
16 needing multiagency services";

17 (3) outline the membership and[~~7~~] officers of the  
18 systems of care executive council and teams established under  
19 Subchapter K[~~, and necessary standing committees of local-level~~  
20 ~~interagency staffing groups~~];

21 (4) define procedures aimed at eliminating  
22 duplication of services relating to assessment and diagnosis,  
23 treatment, residential placement and care, and case management of  
24 persons needing multiagency services;

25 (5) define procedures for addressing disputes between  
26 systems of care [~~the~~] agencies that relate to the agencies' areas of  
27 service responsibilities;

1           (6) [~~provide that each local-level interagency~~  
2 ~~staffing group includes:~~

3                   [~~(A) a local representative of each agency,~~

4                   [~~(B) representatives of local private sector~~  
5 ~~agencies; and~~

6                   [~~(C) family members or caregivers of persons~~  
7 ~~needing multiagency services or other current or previous consumers~~  
8 ~~of multiagency services acting as general consumer advocates;~~

9           [~~(7)~~] provide that the local representative of each  
10 agency has authority to contribute agency resources to solving  
11 problems identified by [~~the~~] local-level systems of care teams  
12 established under Subchapter K [~~interagency staffing group~~];

13           (7) [~~(8)~~] provide that if a person's needs exceed the  
14 resources of a systems of care [~~an~~] agency, the agency may, with the  
15 consent of the person's legal guardian, if applicable, submit a  
16 referral on behalf of the person to a systems of care coordination  
17 and assessment team established under Subchapter K, using referral  
18 procedures established by a systems of care community team under  
19 that subchapter [~~the local-level interagency staffing group for~~  
20 ~~consideration~~];

21           (8) [~~(9)~~] provide that ~~a local-level interagency~~  
22 ~~staffing group may be called together by a representative of any~~  
23 ~~member agency;~~

24           [~~(10)~~] provide that an agency representative may be  
25 excused from attending a meeting of a systems of care team  
26 established under Subchapter K if the team [~~staffing group~~]  
27 determines that the [~~age or~~] needs of a [~~the~~] person to be

1 considered at the meeting are clearly not within the agency's  
2 service responsibilities, provided that each agency representative  
3 is encouraged to attend all meetings to contribute to the  
4 collective ability of the team [~~staffing group~~] to address [~~solve~~]  
5 a person's need for multiagency services;

6 (9) [~~(11)~~] ~~define the relationship between state-level~~  
7 ~~interagency staffing groups and local-level interagency staffing~~  
8 ~~groups in a manner that defines, supports, and maintains local~~  
9 ~~autonomy;~~

10 [~~(12)~~] provide that records that systems of care  
11 agencies use or develop under Subchapter K and [~~are used or~~  
12 ~~developed by a local-level interagency staffing group or its~~  
13 ~~members~~] that relate to a particular person are confidential and  
14 may not be released to any other person or agency except as provided  
15 by this section or by other law; and

16 (10) [~~(13)~~] provide a procedure that permits systems  
17 of care [~~the~~] agencies to share confidential information while  
18 preserving the confidential nature of the information.

19 (d) Systems of care [~~(c) The~~] agencies [~~that participate in~~  
20 ~~the formulation of the memorandum of understanding~~] shall consult  
21 with and solicit input from advocacy and consumer groups in  
22 formulating the memorandum of understanding.

23 (e) Each systems of care agency shall conduct a biennial  
24 review of the memorandum of understanding and propose necessary  
25 changes to the memorandum. The agencies shall develop other  
26 revisions as necessary to reflect major agency reorganizations or  
27 other statutory changes affecting the agencies.

1           (f) [~~(d)~~] Each systems of care agency shall adopt the  
2 memorandum of understanding and all revisions to the memorandum.  
3 [~~The agencies shall develop revisions as necessary to reflect major~~  
4 ~~agency reorganizations or statutory changes affecting the~~  
5 ~~agencies.~~

6           ~~[(e) The agencies shall ensure that a state-level~~  
7 ~~interagency staffing group provides a biennial report to the~~  
8 ~~executive director of each agency, the legislature, and the~~  
9 ~~governor that includes:~~

10                   ~~[(1) the number of persons served through the~~  
11 ~~local-level interagency staffing groups and the outcomes of the~~  
12 ~~services provided;~~

13                   ~~[(2) a description of any barriers identified to the~~  
14 ~~state's ability to provide effective services to persons needing~~  
15 ~~multiagency services; and~~

16                   ~~[(3) any other information relevant to improving the~~  
17 ~~delivery of services to persons needing multiagency services.]~~

18           SECTION 3. ADOPTION OF MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING. (a)  
19 Each systems of care agency shall adopt the joint memorandum of  
20 understanding, as provided by Section 531.055, Government Code, as  
21 amended by this Act, on or before September 1, 2004.

22           (b) The memorandum of understanding adopted under Section  
23 531.055, Government Code, as added by Chapter 114, Acts of the 77th  
24 Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, remains in effect until the  
25 memorandum of understanding adopted under Section 531.055,  
26 Government Code, as amended by this Act, is adopted and takes  
27 effect.



1 SECTION 4. FUNDING PLAN FOR PROVISION OF MULTIAGENCY  
2 SERVICES. (a) The systems of care executive council created by  
3 Section 531.402, Government Code, as added by this Act, shall  
4 develop a plan for funding systems of care services and teams  
5 established under Subchapter K, Chapter 531, Government Code, as  
6 added by this Act, using all available state and federal money,  
7 including money used to fund a community resource coordination  
8 group established under a memorandum of understanding adopted under  
9 Section 531.055, Government Code, as added by Chapter 114, Acts of  
10 the 77th Legislature, Regular Session, 2001, or a site  
11 participating in the Texas Integrated Funding Initiative under  
12 Subchapter G, Chapter 531, Government Code, as added by Chapter  
13 446, Acts of the 76th Legislature, Regular Session, 1999, as that  
14 subchapter existed before its repeal by this Act.

15 (b) The systems of care executive council shall report on  
16 the plan to the legislature not later than September 1, 2004.

17 SECTION 5. REPEALER; CONFORMING AMENDMENTS. (a) Section  
18 242.801(2), Health and Safety Code, is repealed.

19 (b) Subchapter G, Chapter 531, Government Code, as added by  
20 Chapter 446, Acts of the 76th Legislature, Regular Session, 1999,  
21 is repealed. This subsection does not affect the funding for or  
22 provision of services by a community participating in the Texas  
23 Integrated Funding Initiative under that subchapter before the  
24 effective date of this Act, and that subchapter is continued in  
25 effect for those purposes.

26 (c) Section 531.151(2), Government Code, is amended to read  
27 as follows:

1           (2) "Coordination and assessment team" [~~"Community~~  
2 ~~resource coordination group"~~] means a systems of care coordination  
3 and assessment team established under Subchapter K [~~coordination~~  
4 ~~group established under the memorandum of understanding adopted~~  
5 ~~under Section 264.003, Family Code~~].

6           (d) Section 531.154(a), Government Code, is amended to read  
7 as follows:

8           (a) Not later than the third day after the date a child is  
9 initially placed in an institution, the institution shall notify:

10           (1) the Texas Department of Human Services, if the  
11 child is placed in a nursing home;

12           (2) the local mental retardation authority, as defined  
13 by Section 531.002, Health and Safety Code, where the institution  
14 is located, if the child:

15                   (A) is placed in an ICF-MR, as defined by Section  
16 531.002, Health and Safety Code; or

17                   (B) is placed by a state or local child  
18 protective services agency in an institution for the mentally  
19 retarded licensed by the Department of Protective and Regulatory  
20 Services;

21           (3) the coordination and assessment team [~~community~~  
22 ~~resource coordination group~~] in the county of residence of a parent  
23 or guardian of the child;

24           (4) if the child is at least three years of age, the  
25 school district for the area in which the institution is located;  
26 and

27           (5) if the child is less than three years of age, the

1 local early intervention program for the area in which the  
2 institution is located.

3 (e) Section 531.158, Government Code, is amended to read as  
4 follows:

5 Sec. 531.158. LOCAL PERMANENCY PLANNING SITES. The  
6 commission shall develop an implementation system that consists  
7 initially of four or more local sites and that is designed to  
8 coordinate planning for a permanent living arrangement and  
9 relationship for a child with a family. In developing the system,  
10 the commission shall:

11 (1) include criteria to identify children who need  
12 permanency plans;

13 (2) require the establishment of a permanency plan for  
14 each child who lives outside the child's family or for whom care or  
15 protection is sought in an institution;

16 (3) include a process to determine the agency or  
17 entity responsible for developing and overseeing implementation of  
18 a child's permanency plan;

19 (4) identify, blend, and use funds from all available  
20 sources to provide customized services and programs to implement a  
21 child's permanency plan;

22 (5) clarify and expand the role of a local  
23 coordination and assessment team [~~community resource coordination~~  
24 ~~group~~] in ensuring accountability for a child who resides in an  
25 institution or who is at risk of being placed in an institution;

26 (6) require reporting of each placement or potential  
27 placement of a child in an institution or other living arrangement

1 outside of the child's home; and

2 (7) assign in each local permanency planning site area  
3 a single gatekeeper for all children in the area for whom placement  
4 in an institution through a program funded by the state is sought  
5 with authority to ensure that:

6 (A) family members of each child are aware of:

7 (i) intensive services that could prevent  
8 placement of the child in an institution; and

9 (ii) available placement options; and

10 (B) permanency planning is initiated for each  
11 child.

12 (f) Section 531.284(b), Government Code, is amended to read  
13 as follows:

14 (b) In developing the statewide strategic plan, the office  
15 shall:

16 (1) consider existing programs and models to serve  
17 children younger than six years of age, including:

18 (A) systems of care coordination and assessment  
19 teams established under Subchapter K [~~community resource~~  
20 ~~coordination groups~~];

21 (B) the Texas Integrated Funding Initiative;

22 (C) the Texas Information and Referral Network;

23 and

24 (D) efforts to create a 2-1-1 telephone number  
25 for access to human services;

26 (2) attempt to maximize federal funds and local  
27 existing infrastructure and funds; and

1           (3) provide for local participation to the greatest  
2 extent possible.

3           SECTION 6. INITIAL APPOINTEES TO EXECUTIVE COUNCIL. The  
4 initial appointees to the systems of care executive council created  
5 by Section 531.402, Government Code, as added by this Act, serve  
6 terms expiring February 1, 2005.

7           SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE. This Act takes effect September  
8 1, 2003.