

By: Shapleigh

S.B. No. 492

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to an evaluation of public funding for children's mental  
3 health services.

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

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

12 (b) The evaluation must describe each program and the  
13 services it provides, the sources of funding for the program, and  
14 the purposes for which the funds are used. The evaluation also must  
15 include:

16 (1) recommendations regarding future funding for  
17 those programs, including sources and amounts, and opportunities  
18 for coordinating funding between different agencies; and

19 (2) a determination of whether more effective methods  
20 exist for funding children's mental health services in this state.

21 (c) The Health and Human Services Commission shall report on  
22 the results of the evaluation to the 79th Legislature not later than  
23 January 11, 2005.

24 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives

1 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
2 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
3 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
4 Act takes effect September 1, 2003.