

By: Dukes, Naishtat, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Ellis) H.B. No. 1685  
(In the Senate - Received from the House April 20, 2005;  
April 21, 2005, read first time and referred to Committee on Health  
and Human Services; May 16, 2005, reported favorably by the  
following vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 16, 2005, sent to printer.)

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
AN ACT

relating to the establishment of an interagency coordinating  
council for the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle E, Title 5, Family Code, is amended by  
adding Chapter 266 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 266. INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR  
BUILDING HEALTHY FAMILIES

Sec. 266.001. INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR  
BUILDING HEALTHY FAMILIES. (a) The Interagency Coordinating  
Council for Building Healthy Families is established to facilitate  
communication and collaboration concerning policies for the  
prevention of and early intervention in child abuse and neglect  
among state agencies whose programs and services promote and foster  
healthy families.

(b) The council consists of one representative from each of  
the following agencies appointed by the executive director or  
commissioner of each agency:

- (1) the Department of Family and Protective Services;
- (2) the Health and Human Services Commission;
- (3) the Department of State Health Services;
- (4) the Department of Aging and Disability Services;
- (5) the Texas Youth Commission;
- (6) the Texas Education Agency;
- (7) the Texas Workforce Commission;
- (8) the office of the attorney general;
- (9) the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission; and
- (10) the Texas Department of Housing and Community

Affairs.

(c) A representative of an agency appointed to the council  
must have an overall understanding of the agency's mission and  
purpose and substantial experience and expertise relating to the  
administration of the agency's policies, programs, and activities.

(d) The representative from the Department of Family and  
Protective Services serves as the presiding officer of the council.

(e) The council shall meet at least quarterly and shall  
submit to the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of  
representatives, and the legislature the minutes of each council  
meeting.

(f) Not later than June 1, 2006, the council shall prepare  
and submit to the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of  
representatives, and the legislature an inventory of the child  
abuse and neglect prevention and early intervention policies,  
programs, and activities of each agency represented on the council.

(g) Not later than December 1, 2006, the council shall  
prepare and submit to the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the  
house of representatives, and the legislature a report containing  
the council's recommendations for improving the coordination and  
collaboration of child abuse and neglect prevention and early  
intervention programs and services among state agencies and the  
council's recommendation regarding whether to continue the  
council.

Sec. 266.002. EXPIRATION OF CHAPTER. This chapter expires  
September 1, 2007.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this

2-1 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

2-2 \* \* \* \* \*