

# SENATE AMENDMENTS

2<sup>nd</sup> Printing

By: Parker, Hughes, Rose, Legler, Lucio III,  
et al.

H.B. No. 2225

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to creating a committee to review the process for finding  
3 permanent placements for children in the conservatorship of the  
4 state.

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

6 SECTION 1. (a) The Department of Family and Protective  
7 Services, in conjunction with the adoption review committee  
8 described by Subsection (b) of this section, shall conduct an  
9 extensive review of the foster care system to:

10 (1) identify obstacles that impede the department's  
11 ability to find a permanent placement for foster children,  
12 including placement by adoption; and

13 (2) develop ways to improve the foster care system by:

14 (A) reducing the time a child is in the  
15 conservatorship of the department before being permanently placed;

16 (B) reducing the number of children in the  
17 conservatorship of the department who are placed outside of their  
18 home county; and

19 (C) enhancing the procedures for adopting foster  
20 children.

21 (b) The adoption review committee is composed of the  
22 following nine members:

23 (1) four members appointed by the executive  
24 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission as

1 follows:

2 (A) an employee of the Department of Family and  
3 Protective Services;

4 (B) a representative from a licensed  
5 child-placing agency that provides adoption services;

6 (C) a representative from the Council on  
7 Adoptable Children of Texas; and

8 (D) an attorney with expertise in handling  
9 adoptions; and

10 (2) five members who have expertise in or a  
11 demonstrated commitment to adoption issues, three of whom are  
12 appointed by the governor, one of whom is appointed by the  
13 lieutenant governor, and one of whom is appointed by the speaker of  
14 the house of representatives.

15 (c) The adoption review committee shall meet at least  
16 quarterly.

17 (d) Not later than December 1, 2010, the Department of  
18 Family and Protective Services shall submit a written report of the  
19 results of the review conducted under Subsection (a) of this  
20 section to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of  
21 the house of representatives, the House Committee on Human  
22 Services, and the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services.

23 The report must include:

24 (1) a summary of the findings of the review conducted  
25 under Subsection (a) of this section;

26 (2) a summary of the obstacles identified in the  
27 review that impede the department's ability to find permanent

1 placements for foster children;

2           (3) recommendations of actions the department should  
3 take to eliminate the obstacles described by Subdivision (2) of  
4 this subsection; and

5           (4) any legislative recommendations that would  
6 improve the foster care system.

7           SECTION 2. Not later than December 1, 2009, the executive  
8 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission and the  
9 governor shall appoint the members of the adoption review committee  
10 and the adoption review committee shall begin performing its duties  
11 as provided by this Act.

12           SECTION 3. The adoption review committee is abolished and  
13 this Act expires September 1, 2011.

14           SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
15 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
16 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
17 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
18 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

# ADOPTED

MAY 21 2009

*Atay Spaul*  
Secretary of the Senate

By: Parker (Sp: Nelson)

H.B. No. 2225

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 2225:

By: Nelson

C.S. H.B. No. 2225

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17 conservatorship of the department who are placed outside of their  
18 home county; and

19 (C) enhancing the procedures for adopting foster  
20 children.

21 (b) The adoption review committee is composed of the  
22 following nine members:

23 (1) four members appointed by the executive  
24 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission as

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6 (C) a representative from the Council on  
7 Adoptable Children of Texas; and

8 (D) an attorney with expertise in handling  
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10 (2) five members appointed by the governor who have  
11 expertise in or a demonstrated commitment to adoption issues.

12 (c) The adoption review committee shall meet at least  
13 quarterly.

14 (d) Not later than December 1, 2010, the Department of  
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16 results of the review conducted under Subsection (a) of this  
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18 the house of representatives, the House Committee on Human  
19 Services, and the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services.  
20 The report must include:

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22 under Subsection (a) of this section;

23 (2) a summary of the obstacles identified in the  
24 review that impede the department's ability to find permanent  
25 placements for foster children;

26 (3) recommendations of actions the department should  
27 take to eliminate the obstacles described by Subdivision (2) of

1 this subsection; and

2 (4) any legislative recommendations that would  
3 improve the foster care system.

4 SECTION 2. Not later than December 1, 2009, the executive  
5 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission and the  
6 governor shall appoint the members of the adoption review committee  
7 and the adoption review committee shall begin performing its duties  
8 as provided by this Act.

9 SECTION 3. The adoption review committee is abolished and  
10 this Act expires September 1, 2011.

11 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
12 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
13 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
14 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
15 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**May 23, 2009**

**TO:** Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

**FROM:** John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB2225** by Parker (Relating to creating a committee to review the process for finding permanent placements for children in the conservatorship of the state.), **As Passed 2nd House**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would establish an adoption review committee consisting of nine members, including four members appointed by the Executive Commissioner of Health and Human Services and five members appointed by the Governor. It would require the Department of Family and Protective Services in conjunction with the adoption review committee to conduct and report on an extensive review of the foster care system. The report would be due by December 1, 2010, and the committee would be abolished on September 1, 2011. The agency indicates any cost to implement provisions of the bill would be minimal and can be absorbed within available resources.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 530 Family and Protective Services, Department of

**LBB Staff:** JOB, SD, CL, NM, MB





**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
Austin, Texas

**FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**May 10, 2009**

**TO:** Honorable Jane Nelson, Chair, Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

**FROM:** John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB2225** by Parker (Relating to creating a committee to review the process for finding permanent placements for children in the conservatorship of the state.), **Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would establish an adoption review committee consisting of nine members, including four members appointed by the Executive Commissioner of Health and Human Services and five members appointed by the Governor. It would require the Department of Family and Protective Services in conjunction with the adoption review committee to conduct and report on an extensive review of the foster care system. The report would be due by December 1, 2010, and the committee would be abolished on September 1, 2011. The agency indicates any cost to implement provisions of the bill would be minimal and can be absorbed within available resources.

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**Source Agencies:** 530 Family and Protective Services, Department of

**LBB Staff:** JOB, CL, NM, MB



**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**

**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**May 6, 2009**

**TO:** Honorable Jane Nelson, Chair, Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

**FROM:** John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE:** HB2225 by Parker (Relating to creating a committee to review the process for finding permanent placements for children in the conservatorship of the state.), **As Engrossed**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would establish an adoption review committee consisting of nine members, including four members appointed by the Executive Commissioner of Health and Human Services; three members appointed by the Governor; one member appointed by the Lieutenant Governor; and one member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. It would require the Department of Family and Protective Services in conjunction with the adoption review committee to conduct and report on an extensive review of the foster care system. The report would be due by December 1, 2010, and the committee would be abolished on September 1, 2011. The agency indicates any cost to implement provisions of the bill would be minimal and can be absorbed within available resources.

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No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 530 Family and Protective Services, Department of

**LBB Staff:** JOB, CL, NM, MB



**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
Austin, Texas

**FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**April 6, 2009**

**TO:** Honorable Patrick M. Rose, Chair, House Committee on Human Services

**FROM:** John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB2225** by Parker (Relating to creating a committee to review the process for finding permanent placements for children in the conservatorship of the state.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would establish an adoption review committee consisting of six members appointed by the Executive Commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission, one member appointed by the Governor, one member appointed by the Lieutenant Governor, and one member appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. It would require the Department of Family and Protective Services in conjunction with the adoption review committee to conduct and report on an extensive review of the foster care system. The report would be due by December 1, 2010, and the committee would be abolished on September 1, 2011. The agency indicates any cost to implement provisions of the bill would be minimal and can be absorbed within available resources.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 530 Family and Protective Services, Department of

**LBB Staff:** JOB, CL, NM, MB



**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 81ST LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**March 25, 2009**

**TO:** Honorable Patrick M. Rose, Chair, House Committee on Human Services

**FROM:** John S. O'Brien, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB2225** by Parker (Relating to creating a committee to review the process for finding permanent placements for children in the conservatorship of the state.), **As Introduced**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would establish a foster care review committee consisting of two members appointed by the Governor, two members appointed by the Lieutenant Governor, and two members appointed by the Speaker of the House of Representatives. It would require the Department of Family and Protective Services in conjunction with the foster care review committee to conduct and report on an extensive review of the foster care system. The report would be due by December 1, 2010, and the committee would be abolished on September 1, 2011. The agency indicates any cost to implement provisions of the bill would be minimal and can be absorbed within available resources.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 530 Family and Protective Services, Department of

**LBB Staff:** JOB, CL, NM, MB

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