

By: Strama

H.B. No. 1143

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain assessments for children in the conservatorship of the state.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 266, Family Code, is amended by adding Section 266.011 to read as follows:

Sec. 266.011. COMPREHENSIVE ASSESSMENTS. (a) Not later than the 45th day after the date a child enters the conservatorship of the department, the child shall receive a developmentally appropriate, comprehensive psychosocial assessment. The assessment must include:

(1) a screening for trauma; and

(2) interviews with individuals who have knowledge of the child's needs.

(b) The department shall develop:

(1) a schedule of approved assessment tools that may be used in the performance of an assessment; and

(2) guidelines regarding the contents of an assessment report.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.