

By: Simmons, Farney

H.B. No. 3282

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3282:

By: Aycock

C.S.H.B. No. 3282

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the coordination of, communication of best practices
3 concerning, and collection of information pertaining to the
4 provision of evidence-based behavioral services for students with
5 autism spectrum disorder in this state.

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

7 SECTION 1. Chapter 61, Education Code, is amended by adding
8 Subchapter P to read as follows:

9 SUBCHAPTER P. AUTISM SERVICES

10 Sec. 61.781. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "autism
11 program" means:

12 (1) a public entity that provides evidence-based
13 behavioral services, including applied behavior analysis services
14 for children with autism spectrum disorder; and

15 (2) an autism research center at a public or private
16 institution of higher education that provides evidence-based
17 behavioral services, including applied behavior analysis services
18 for children with autism spectrum disorder, under a grant contract
19 with the board.

20 Sec. 61.782. COORDINATION OF SERVICES; COMMUNICATION ON
21 BEST PRACTICES. (a) The board shall ensure communication and
22 coordination among the board, autism programs, school districts,
23 the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, and other
24 state agencies providing evidence-based behavioral services to

1 children with autism spectrum disorder in this state regarding best
2 practices for delivering those services.

3 (b) An autism program, a school district, the Department of
4 Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, or another state agency that
5 provides evidence-based behavioral services to children with
6 autism spectrum disorder in this state shall comply with a request
7 for information concerning the provision of those services made by
8 the board for the purpose of complying with this subchapter.

9 Sec. 61.783. STATEWIDE AUTISM DATABASE; REPORT. (a) The
10 board shall maintain a statewide autism database of information
11 regarding the number of children served through each autism program
12 and through each state agency providing evidence-based behavioral
13 services to children with autism spectrum disorder in this state,
14 the effectiveness of those programs and services, statewide best
15 practices for the delivery of those programs and services, and the
16 identification of underserved regions of the state with regard to
17 those programs and services.

18 (b) Annually, the board shall submit to the legislature a
19 report on the information maintained in the database.

20 (c) The board may not include in the database personal
21 information of any kind pertaining to a child receiving services
22 from an autism program or a state agency or pertaining to the
23 child's family.

24 (d) The board shall make the database readily accessible
25 online.

26 Sec. 61.784. RULES. The board shall adopt rules as
27 necessary for the administration of this subchapter.

1 SECTION 2. SELECT COMMITTEES ON AUTISM SERVICES. (a) Not
2 later than November 30, 2015:

3 (1) the speaker of the house of representatives shall
4 appoint to a House Select Committee on Statewide Coordination of
5 Autism Services seven members with one member designated as chair;
6 and

7 (2) the lieutenant governor shall appoint to a Senate
8 Select Committee on Statewide Coordination of Autism Services five
9 members with one member designated as chair.

10 (b) The committees established under this section may meet
11 separately at the call of the chair of the committee or jointly at
12 the call of both chairs. In joint meetings, the chairs shall act as
13 joint chairs.

14 (c) The committees established under this section, meeting
15 separately or jointly, shall review, study, and evaluate:

16 (1) autism service programs in other states;

17 (2) university programs in this state that provide
18 autism treatment and services;

19 (3) community agencies and organizations that provide
20 applied behavioral analysis (ABA) services;

21 (4) ways to improve communication and coordination
22 among entities providing autism services across the state;

23 (5) areas of the state that are most underserved with
24 regard to autism services; and

25 (6) ways to provide autism services to more children.

26 (d) Following consideration of the factors described by
27 Subsection (c) of this section, the committees established under

1 this section shall jointly adopt recommendations related to the
2 reviewed topics and shall provide a written report to the
3 legislature of the committees' recommendations for legislative or
4 other action not later than January 13, 2017.

5 (e) This section expires September 1, 2017.

6 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.