

By: Moody

H.B. No. 2866

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to mental health assessments and the provision of mental
3 health services for children in the conservatorship of the
4 Department of Family and Protective Services.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 264, Family Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 264.1077 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 264.1077. MENTAL HEALTH ASSESSMENT. (a) Not later
9 than 72 hours after a child enters the conservatorship of the
10 department, the department shall have an appropriate medical or
11 mental health care professional perform a mental health assessment
12 of the child.

13 (b) The department shall ensure that the child receives any
14 necessary treatment as indicated by the child's mental health
15 assessment, as soon as practicable after the assessment under
16 Subsection (a) is complete.

17 SECTION 2. Section 264.1077, Family Code, as added by this
18 Act, applies only to a child who enters the conservatorship of the
19 Department of Family and Protective Services on or after the
20 effective date of this Act. A child who enters the conservatorship
21 of the department before the effective date of this Act is governed
22 by the law in effect on the date the child entered the
23 conservatorship of the department, and the former law is continued
24 in effect for that purpose.

1 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.