

By: Deshotel

H.B. No. 3323

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the evaluation of and improvements to the quality of the  
3 Texas Workforce Commission's subsidized child care program.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 302.0042, Labor Code, is amended by  
6 amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (c) to read as  
7 follows:

8 (b) The commission's evaluation must assess:

9 (1) the use of current federal child care funds by each  
10 local workforce development board;

11 (2) the ability of each local workforce development  
12 board to meet child care performance measures;

13 (3) the average cost incurred by child care providers  
14 in providing [~~of~~] child care in each local workforce development  
15 area;

16 (4) the average price charged by child care providers  
17 for child care in each local workforce development area;

18 (5) the poverty rate of each local workforce  
19 development area compared to the state's poverty rate;

20 (6) [~~(5)~~] the number of children on waiting lists for  
21 child care in each local workforce development area; [~~and~~]

22 (7) [~~(6)~~] the number of vacancies for full-time  
23 program enrollment [~~vacant slots~~] available for child care  
24 placement in each local workforce development area;

1           (8) the total number of child care providers  
2 participating in the Texas Rising Star Program in each local  
3 workforce development area and the number of 2-star, 3-star, and  
4 4-star rated child care providers in the local workforce  
5 development area;

6           (9) the number of child care providers participating  
7 in the Texas Rising Star Program in each local workforce  
8 development area as a percentage of the total number of child care  
9 providers in the local workforce development area and the number of  
10 2-star, 3-star, and 4-star rated child care providers in the local  
11 workforce development area as a percentage of the total number of  
12 child care providers in the local workforce development area;

13           (10) the total number of children enrolled in child  
14 care providers participating in the Texas Rising Star Program in  
15 each local workforce development area and the number of children  
16 enrolled in 2-star, 3-star, and 4-star rated child care providers  
17 in the local workforce development area; and

18           (11) the number of children enrolled in child care  
19 providers participating in the Texas Rising Star Program in each  
20 local workforce development area as a percentage of the total  
21 number of children enrolled in child care providers in the local  
22 workforce development area and the number of children enrolled in  
23 2-star, 3-star, and 4-star rated child care providers in the local  
24 workforce development area as a percentage of the total number of  
25 children enrolled in child care providers in the local workforce  
26 development area.

27           (c) For the purposes of evaluation under this section, the

1 commission shall annually conduct a survey in each local workforce  
2 development area to determine:

3 (1) the average cost incurred by child care providers  
4 in providing child care in the area; and

5 (2) the average price charged by child care providers  
6 for child care in the area.

7 SECTION 2. Section 302.0043, Labor Code, is amended by  
8 adding Subsection (c-1) and amending Subsections (e) and (f) to  
9 read as follows:

10 (c-1) The commission shall measure and evaluate the  
11 progress of the commission's child care program regarding:

12 (1) coordination with the Texas Education Agency to  
13 enable the submission of relevant data related to children younger  
14 than five years of age enrolled in the commission's child care  
15 program through the Public Education Information Management System  
16 (PEIMS);

17 (2) coordination with the Texas Education Agency,  
18 school districts, and open-enrollment charter schools on any  
19 prekindergarten quality improvement efforts;

20 (3) facilitation of child care provider enrollment in  
21 the Texas Rising Star Program and progression of providers to the  
22 highest rating level in the program; and

23 (4) development and implementation of rates and  
24 payments, as determined by local workforce development boards, to  
25 allow participating providers to provide high quality child care.

26 (e) The commission shall make the information collected by  
27 the commission and the commission's findings available to local

1 workforce development boards, school districts, open-enrollment  
2 charter schools, and the public.

3 (f) Not later than January 15 of each odd-numbered year, the  
4 commission shall report to the legislature regarding the  
5 commission's findings regarding the effectiveness of the  
6 commission's child care program. The report must:

7 (1) include employment outcome information,  
8 disaggregated by local workforce development area, regarding  
9 parents receiving subsidized care under the program; ~~and~~

10 (2) identify multiyear trends in the information  
11 collected and analyzed by the commission under this section,  
12 including trends in the information for at least the five state  
13 fiscal years preceding the date of the report;

14 (3) include information described by Sections  
15 302.0042(b)(8)-(11); and

16 (4) evaluate the findings of the survey conducted  
17 under Section 302.0042(c).

18 SECTION 3. Section 302.00435, Labor Code, is amended to  
19 read as follows:

20 Sec. 302.00435. SUBSIDIZED CHILD CARE PROGRAM; INPUT  
21 POLICY. (a) The commission shall develop a policy for obtaining,  
22 through appropriate methods, input from interested parties  
23 regarding its subsidized child care program and for using that  
24 input in administering that program.

25 (b) The policy developed under Subsection (a) must include  
26 methods for obtaining input from the Texas Education Agency, school  
27 districts, open-enrollment charter schools, relevant businesses,

1 and the public, regarding:

2 (1) improving coordination between the subsidized  
3 child care program and prekindergarten programs; and

4 (2) increasing the quality of and access to the  
5 subsidized child care program.

6 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.