By: Howard H.B. No. 474

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a Department of Family and Protective Services plan to address the substitute care capacity needs in certain department regions.

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

SECTION 1. Section 264.1261(b), Family Code, as added by Chapter 319 (S.B. 11), Acts of the 85th Legislature, Regular Session, 2017, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Appropriate department management personnel from a child protective services region in which community-based care has not been implemented, in collaboration with foster care providers, faith-based entities, and child advocates in that region, shall use data collected by the department on foster care capacity needs and availability of each type of foster care and kinship placement in the region to create a plan to address the substitute care capacity needs in the region. The plan must identify:

(1) [both] short-term and long-term goals and strategies for addressing those capacity needs; and

(2) the capacity and geographic distribution of foster placements tailored to serve the distinct needs of pregnant and parenting youth in the conservatorship of the department.

SECTION 2. Sections 264.1261(a) and (b), Family Code, as added by Chapter 822 (H.B. 1549), Acts of the 85th Legislature, Regular Session, 2017, are repealed.
SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.