

By: White

H.B. No. 3116

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the establishment of a task force to conduct a  
3 comprehensive study on best practice standards for the detention of  
4 persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

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

6 SECTION 1. (a) In this section, "task force" means the task  
7 force on best practice standards for the detention of persons with  
8 intellectual and developmental disabilities established under this  
9 section.

10 (b) The task force is established to conduct a comprehensive  
11 study on best practice standards for the detention of a person with  
12 an intellectual or developmental disability. The study must  
13 identify and make recommendations regarding the following with  
14 respect to the detention of persons with intellectual and  
15 developmental disabilities:

- 16 (1) current policies and procedures;  
17 (2) barriers to accommodations and justice;  
18 (3) best practices used in other states;  
19 (4) policies that would improve jail standards; and  
20 (5) any other issue the task force considers  
21 appropriate.

22 (c) The Commission on Jail Standards shall appoint the  
23 members of the task force. The task force must include at least:

- 24 (1) one representative of the Commission on Jail

1 Standards;

2 (2) one representative of a statewide organization  
3 that advocates for individuals with intellectual and developmental  
4 disabilities;

5 (3) one representative of a city or county  
6 governmental agency that supports persons with intellectual and  
7 developmental disabilities;

8 (4) one representative of a city or county  
9 governmental agency that provides mental health services;

10 (5) one representative of a statewide organization  
11 that represents municipalities;

12 (6) one representative of a statewide organization  
13 that represents corrections professionals;

14 (7) one representative of a law enforcement entity;  
15 and

16 (8) one representative of a county jail.

17 (d) The member appointed under Subsection (c)(1) of this  
18 section serves as the presiding officer of the task force.

19 (e) The task force shall prepare a written report that  
20 includes:

21 (1) a description of the activities of the task force;

22 (2) the findings and recommendations of the task  
23 force;

24 (3) a plan for how the best practice standards  
25 identified by the task force can be implemented statewide;

26 (4) any proposals for legislation; and

27 (5) any other matter the task force considers

1 appropriate.

2 (f) Not later than December 1, 2020, the task force shall  
3 submit the report prepared under this section to:

4 (1) the governor;

5 (2) the lieutenant governor;

6 (3) the speaker of the house of representatives; and

7 (4) the presiding officers of the standing committees  
8 of the senate and house of representatives having primary  
9 jurisdiction over issues relating to criminal justice.

10 (g) The Commission on Jail Standards shall make the report  
11 available to the public on the commission's Internet website.

12 (h) The task force is abolished and this Act expires  
13 September 1, 2021.

14 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.