

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.