

By: Schaefer

H.B. No. 3119

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to strategic fiscal reviews of state agencies and  
3 programs.

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

5 SECTION 1. (a) In this section, "board" means the  
6 Legislative Budget Board.

7 (b) The board shall perform a strategic fiscal review for  
8 each state agency continued in existence by an Act of the 85th  
9 Legislature, Regular Session, 2017.

10 (c) Not later than September 1, 2020, the board shall  
11 prepare and submit a report of the findings of the strategic fiscal  
12 review conducted under Subsection (b) of this section to the  
13 governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of  
14 representatives and to the members of the senate finance and house  
15 appropriations committees.

16 (d) The strategic fiscal review report under Subsection (c)  
17 of this section must contain:

18 (1) a description of the discrete activities the state  
19 agency is charged with conducting or performing together with:

20 (A) a justification for each activity by  
21 reference to a statute or other legal authority; and

22 (B) an evaluation of the effectiveness and  
23 efficiency of the state agency's policies, management, fiscal  
24 affairs, and operations in relation to each activity;

1           (2) for each activity identified under Subdivision (1)  
2 of this subsection:

3           (A) a quantitative estimate of any adverse  
4 effects that reasonably may be expected to result if the activity  
5 were discontinued, together with a description of the methods by  
6 which the adverse effects were estimated;

7           (B) an itemized account of expenditures required  
8 to maintain the activity at the minimum level of service or  
9 performance required by the statute or other legal authority,  
10 together with a concise statement of the quantity and quality of  
11 service or performance required at that minimum level; and

12           (C) an itemized account of expenditures required  
13 to maintain the activity at the current level of service or  
14 performance, together with a concise statement of the quantity and  
15 quality of service or performance provided at that current level;

16           (3) a ranking of activities identified under  
17 Subdivision (1) of this subsection that illustrates the relative  
18 importance of each activity to the overall goals and purposes of the  
19 state agency at current service or performance levels; and

20           (4) recommendations to the legislature regarding  
21 whether the legislature should continue funding each activity  
22 identified under Subdivision (1) of this subsection and, if so, at  
23 what level.

24           (e) The legislature may consider the strategic fiscal  
25 review report conducted under this section in connection with the  
26 legislative appropriations process.

27           (f) Until the board has completed a strategic fiscal review

1 under this section, all information, documentary or otherwise,  
2 prepared or maintained in conducting the strategic fiscal review or  
3 preparing the strategic fiscal review report, including  
4 intra-agency and interagency communications and drafts of the  
5 strategic fiscal review report, or portions of those drafts, is  
6 excepted from required public disclosure as audit working papers  
7 under Section 552.116, Government Code. This subsection does not  
8 affect whether information described by this subsection is  
9 confidential or excepted from required public disclosure under a  
10 law other than Section 552.116, Government Code.

11 (g) This section expires August 31, 2021.

12 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.