

By: Goldman

H.B. No. 3738

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to creating an Internet website of certain day-care  
3 providers and parenting resources.

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

5 SECTION 1. The heading to Section 42.025, Human Resources  
6 Code, is amended to read as follows:

7 Sec. 42.025. SEARCHABLE DATABASE OF PREVIOUSLY DISCIPLINED  
8 FAMILY HOMES.

9 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 42, Human Resources Code,  
10 is amended by adding Section 42.026 to read as follows:

11 Sec. 42.026. INTERNET WEBSITE LISTING DAY-CARE PROVIDERS.

12 (a) The commission shall maintain a single, statewide Internet  
13 website of day-care providers, including day-care centers, group  
14 day-care homes, listed and registered family homes, and  
15 prekindergarten programs provided by public school districts or  
16 charter schools under Chapter 29, Education Code.

17 (b) The Internet website must:

18 (1) be user-friendly, easy to navigate, and designed to  
19 assist parents in locating and selecting day-care providers;

20 (2) be searchable by the information provided under  
21 Subdivision (5)(D);

22 (3) provide resources for parents regarding early  
23 childhood education and development, including information or  
24 materials developed under Section 2308.317(a)(5), Government Code;

1           (4) be easily accessible by:

2                   (A) persons who speak a language other than  
3 English; and

4                   (B) persons and families of persons with a  
5 disability; and

6           (5) include:

7                   (A) information to assist families in  
8 understanding the importance of licensed day-care facilities;

9                   (B) an annual report compiled by the commission  
10 on the number of deaths, serious injuries, and incidents of child  
11 abuse and neglect that have occurred in day-care facilities;

12                   (C) contact information for state and local  
13 agencies that can provide additional assistance to parents and  
14 individuals with questions about day-care facilities;

15                   (D) the following information for each day-care  
16 provider:

17                           (i) the provider's address and zip code;

18                           (ii) whether the provider is licensed,  
19 listed, or registered;

20                           (iii) the provider's hours of operation;

21                           (iv) the setting of the day-care provider;

22                           (v) the ages of children served by the  
23 provider;

24                           (vi) whether the provider participates in  
25 the Texas Workforce Commission's child care subsidy program;

26                           (vii) the provider's Texas Rising Star  
27 Program rating provided by the Texas Workforce Commission;

1                   (viii) the provider's status as an Early  
2 Head Start or Head Start provider as provided by the Texas Head  
3 Start State Collaboration Office; and

4                   (ix) a link to each inspection report for  
5 the provider posted on the commission's Internet website; and

6                   (E) an optional profile for each day-care  
7 provider, developed in collaboration with the provider, that  
8 includes a brief narrative about the provider, information about  
9 the provider's services, and photographs.

10                  (c) The commission shall consult with the Texas Early  
11 Learning Council in developing the Internet website required by  
12 this section.

13                  (d) The commission shall make the Internet website  
14 available through a mobile application for wireless communication  
15 devices.

16                  (e) The commission may contract with a third party to  
17 establish the Internet website and mobile application for wireless  
18 communication devices required under this section.

19                  SECTION 3. Not later than January 1, 2020, the Health and  
20 Human Services Commission shall make the Internet website required  
21 by Section 42.026, Human Resources Code, as added by this Act,  
22 available to the public.

23                  SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.