

By: Deshotel

H.B. No. 3876

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a work group to advise the Texas Workforce Commission regarding the Texas Rising Star Program.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter G, Chapter 2308, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 2308.321 to read as follows:

Sec. 2308.321. TEXAS RISING STAR PROGRAM REVIEW WORK GROUP.

(a) The Texas Rising Star Program review work group is established to propose revisions to the commission's rules on the Texas Rising Star Program.

(b) The work group consists of the following members appointed by the executive director of the commission:

(1) at least one member from the commission;

(2) at least one member from the Department of Family and Protective Services;

(3) at least one member from the early childhood education division of the Texas Education Agency;

(4) at least one member from the governor's Texas Early Learning Council;

(5) at least one member who is appointed to a local workforce development board;

(6) at least four members who are Texas Rising Star Program providers with different Texas Rising Star Program ratings:

(A) at least one of whom must be a for-profit

1 private provider;

2 (B) at least one of whom must be a single-site
3 provider;

4 (C) at least one of whom must be a multi-site
5 provider; and

6 (D) at least one of whom must be an individual who
7 provides child care in the provider's own home;

8 (7) at least one provider who is a Texas School Ready!
9 participant;

10 (8) at least three members employed by different
11 boards who work in the employing board's child-care program and
12 have experience and expertise in early childhood development or the
13 Texas Rising Star Program or other similar certification or
14 accreditation programs; and

15 (9) not more than three public members who are
16 ineligible for appointment to the work group under Subdivisions
17 (1)-(8) and whom the executive director considers indispensable to
18 work group purposes.

19 (c) The work group shall hold the group's initial meeting
20 not later than November 1, 2019, and shall meet at other times as
21 determined by the presiding officer.

22 (d) The work group shall elect a presiding officer by a vote
23 of the membership of the work group.

24 (e) Not later than May 1, 2020, the work group shall submit
25 to the executive director of the commission recommendations
26 proposing revisions to the commission's guidelines relating to the
27 Texas Rising Star Program. In making its recommendations, the work

1 group shall consider:

2 (1) professional development standards for child-care
3 directors and employees, including training and annual
4 professional development requirements;

5 (2) education and experience requirements for mentors
6 and evaluators;

7 (3) early learning and school readiness standards;

8 (4) guidelines for infants and toddlers in child care;

9 (5) minimum training hours for providers;

10 (6) playground standards, including outdoor learning
11 environments;

12 (7) nutrition standards;

13 (8) standards for use of technology in child care;

14 (9) best practices guidelines based on standards
15 adopted by nationally recognized organizations, including Head
16 Start Program Performance Standards, National Health and Safety
17 Performance Standards, National Association for the Education of
18 Young Children program standards and accreditation criteria,
19 National Association for Family Child Care standards, United States
20 Department of Defense standards, national accreditation standards,
21 and Texas School Ready! participant standards;

22 (10) research on infant and toddler brain development;

23 and

24 (11) strategies for the long-term financing of the
25 Texas Rising Star Program, including:

26 (A) financing the payment of:

27 (i) incentives to child-care providers

1 participating in the program; and

2 (ii) grants and rewards to child-care
3 providers that achieve and maintain high levels of service; and

4 (B) strategies to support wage parity for
5 child-care providers participating in the program.

6 (f) Not later than September 1, 2019, the commission shall
7 propose rules that incorporate the proposed revisions submitted by
8 the work group under Subsection (e).

9 (g) The executive director of the commission shall make the
10 appointments under this section on September 1, 2019.

11 (h) This section expires December 1, 2020.

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