

By: West, et al.  
(Klick)

S.B. No. 355

Substitute the following for S.B. No. 355:

By: Frank

C.S.S.B. No. 355

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to developing a strategic plan regarding implementation of prevention and early intervention services and community-based care.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 40, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Section 40.079 to read as follows:

Sec. 40.079. STRATEGIC STATE PLAN TO IMPLEMENT COMMUNITY-BASED CARE AND FOSTER CARE PREVENTION SERVICES. (a) The department shall develop a strategic plan for the coordinated implementation of:

(1) community-based care as defined by Section 264.152, Family Code; and

(2) foster care prevention services that meet the requirements of Title VII, Div. E, Pub. L. No. 115-123.

(b) The strategic plan required under this section must:

(1) identify a network of services providers to provide mental health, substance use, and in-home parenting support services for:

(A) children at risk of entering foster care;

(B) the parents and caregivers of children identified under Paragraph (A); and

(C) pregnant or parenting youth in foster care;

(2) identify methods for the statewide implementation

of foster care prevention services, including implementation in department regions that are transitioning to community-based care;

(3) identify resources necessary for the department to implement community-based care and to coordinate that implementation with the implementation of foster care prevention services, including:

(A) enhanced training related to procurement, contract monitoring and enforcement services, information technology services, and financial and legal services;

(B) a financial methodology for funding the implementation of community-based care and foster care prevention services; and

(C) resources to address the placement of children in settings eligible for federal financial participation under the requirements of Title VII, Div. E, Pub. L. No. 115-123;

(4) identify methods to:

(A) maximize resources from the federal government under Title VII, Div. E, Pub. L. No. 115-123;

(B) apply for other available federal and private funds;

(C) streamline and reduce duplication of effort by each state agency involved in providing services described by Subdivision (1);

(D) streamline the procedures for determining eligibility for services described by Subdivision (1);

(E) prescribe and terminate services described by Subdivision (1); and

1                   (F) reduce recidivism in foster care prevention  
2 services;

3                   (5) include a method to:

4                   (A) notify the Senate Health and Human Services  
5 Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, the House Committee on  
6 Human Services, the House Committee on Public Health, and the House  
7 Appropriations Committee of federal and private funding  
8 opportunities; and

9                   (B) respond to the opportunities described by  
10 Paragraph (A); and

11                   (6) identify opportunities to coordinate with  
12 independent researchers to assist community programs in evaluating  
13 and developing trauma-informed services and promising, supported,  
14 or well-supported services and strategies under Title VII, Div. E,  
15 Pub. L. No. 115-123.

16                   (c) In identifying the network of providers described by  
17 Subsection (b)(1), the department shall consult with the Health and  
18 Human Services Commission, the Department of State Health Services,  
19 and community stakeholders.

20                   (d) This section does not supersede or limit the  
21 department's duty to develop and maintain the plan under Section  
22 264.153, Family Code.

23                   (e) The department shall submit the plan developed under  
24 this section to the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker  
25 of the house of representatives, and each member of the standing  
26 committees of the senate and house of representatives having  
27 primary jurisdiction over child welfare issues not later than

1 December 30, 2019.

2 (f) This section expires March 1, 2020.

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