

By: West

S.B. No. 1279

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to prevention and early intervention programs and practices.

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

SECTION 1. Section 264.201(d), Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d) The services may include in-home programs, parenting skills training, youth coping skills, and individual and family counseling. If the department requires or a court orders parenting skills training services through a prevention and early intervention [~~parenting education~~] program or practice, the program or practice must be an evidence-based program or practice, promising [~~practice parenting education~~] program or practice, or evidence-informed program or practice described by Section 265.151 that is provided in the community in which the family resides, if available.

SECTION 2. Section 265.004(a-1), Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a-1) The department shall ensure that not less than 75 percent of the money appropriated for parenting education programs under Subsection (a) funds evidence-based programs or practices described by Section 265.151(b) and that the remainder of that money funds promising [~~practice~~] programs or practices described by Section 265.151(c) and evidence-informed programs or practices

1 described by Section 265.151(d).

2 SECTION 3. The heading to Subchapter D, Chapter 265, Family
3 Code, is amended to read as follows:

4 SUBCHAPTER D. EVIDENCE-BASED PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES [~~PARENTING~~
5 ~~EDUCATION~~]

6 SECTION 4. Section 265.151, Family Code, is amended to read
7 as follows:

8 Sec. 265.151. REQUIREMENTS FOR [~~PARENTING—EDUCATION~~]
9 PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES ON EVIDENCE-BASED SPECTRUM. (a) A
10 prevention and early intervention [~~parenting education~~] program or
11 practice provided by the department must be an evidence-based
12 program or practice, a promising program or practice, or an
13 evidence-informed program or practice described by this section.

14 (b) An evidence-based program or practice is a [~~parenting~~
15 ~~education~~] program or practice that:

16 (1) is research-based and grounded in relevant,
17 empirical knowledge and program-determined outcomes;

18 (2) has comprehensive standards ensuring the highest
19 quality service delivery with continuous improvement in the quality
20 of service delivery;

21 (3) has demonstrated significant positive [~~short-term~~
22 ~~and long-term~~] outcomes as required by Section 265.152;

23 (4) is listed as an evidence-based program or practice
24 by a nationally recognized clearinghouse associated with a state or
25 federal agency or an institution of higher education [~~has been~~
26 ~~evaluated by at least one rigorous, random, controlled research~~
27 ~~trial across heterogeneous populations or communities with~~

1 ~~research results that have been published in a peer-reviewed~~
2 ~~journal];~~

3 (5) substantially complies with a program or practice
4 manual or design that specifies the purpose, outcomes, duration,
5 and frequency of the program or practice services; ~~and]~~

6 (6) employs well-trained and competent staff and
7 provides continual relevant professional development opportunities
8 to the staff;

9 (7) is associated with a national organization,
10 institution of higher education, or national or state public health
11 institute;

12 (8) demonstrates substantial connections to other
13 community-based services; and

14 (9) for crisis counseling, individual therapy, family
15 therapy, clinical services, and other recognized professional
16 practices requires:

17 (A) providers to meet any state requirements for
18 professional licensure or certification; and

19 (B) practices to have empirical evidence to
20 support the effectiveness of the practice.

21 (c) A promising [~~practice~~] program or practice is a
22 parenting education program or practice that:

23 (1) has an active impact evaluation program or
24 practice or demonstrates a schedule for implementing an active
25 impact evaluation program or practice;

26 (2) is listed as a promising program or practice by a
27 nationally recognized clearinghouse associated with a state or

1 federal agency or an institution of higher education [~~has been~~
2 ~~evaluated by at least one outcome-based study demonstrating~~
3 ~~effectiveness or random, controlled trial in a homogeneous sample~~];

4 (3) substantially complies with a program or practice
5 manual or design that specifies the purpose, outcomes, duration,
6 and frequency of the program or practice services;

7 (4) employs well-trained and competent staff and
8 provides continual relevant professional development opportunities
9 to the staff; [~~and~~]

10 (5) is research-based and grounded in relevant,
11 empirical knowledge and program-determined outcomes; and

12 (6) demonstrates substantial connections to other
13 community-based services.

14 (d) An evidence-informed program or practice is a program or
15 practice that:

16 (1) combines well-researched interventions with
17 clinical experience, ethics, and client preferences and culture to
18 guide and inform the delivery of treatments and services;

19 (2) has an active impact evaluation program or
20 demonstrates a schedule for implementing an active impact
21 evaluation program;

22 (3) substantially complies with a program or practice
23 manual or design that specifies the purpose, outcome, duration, and
24 frequency of the program or practice services; and

25 (4) employs well-trained and competent staff and
26 provides continual relevant professional development opportunities
27 to the staff.

1 SECTION 5. Section 265.152, Family Code, is amended to read
2 as follows:

3 Sec. 265.152. OUTCOMES OF PREVENTION AND EARLY INTERVENTION
4 PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES [~~EVIDENCE-BASED PARENTING EDUCATION~~]. The
5 department shall ensure that a prevention and early intervention
6 [~~parenting education~~] program or practice provided under this
7 subchapter [~~chapter~~] achieves favorable behavioral outcomes in at
8 least two of the following areas:

- 9 (1) improved cognitive development of children;
- 10 (2) increased [~~school~~] readiness for and
11 participation and performance in school [~~of children~~];
- 12 (3) reduced child abuse, neglect, and injury;
- 13 (4) improved child safety;
- 14 (5) improved social-emotional development of children
15 and youth;
- 16 (6) increased protective factors [~~improved parenting~~
17 ~~skills~~], including nurturing, [~~and~~] bonding, and other parenting
18 skills;
- 19 (7) improved family economic self-sufficiency;
- 20 (8) reduced parental or youth involvement with the
21 criminal justice system; [~~and~~]
- 22 (9) increased paternal involvement and support;
- 23 (10) improved maternal and child health; and
- 24 (11) increased protective factors for youth.

25 SECTION 6. Section 265.153, Family Code, is amended to read
26 as follows:

27 Sec. 265.153. EVALUATION OF PREVENTION AND EARLY

1 INTERVENTION PROGRAMS AND PRACTICES [~~EVIDENCE-BASED PARENTING~~
2 ~~EDUCATION~~]. (a) The department shall adopt outcome indicators to
3 measure the effectiveness of prevention and early intervention
4 [~~parenting education~~] programs and practices provided under this
5 subchapter [~~chapter~~] in achieving desired outcomes.

6 (b) The department may work directly with the model
7 developer of a prevention and early intervention [~~parenting~~
8 ~~education~~] program or practice to identify appropriate outcome
9 indicators for the program or practice and to ensure that the
10 program or practice substantially complies with the model.

11 (c) The department shall develop internal processes to
12 share information with prevention and early intervention service
13 providers [~~parenting education programs~~] to assist the department
14 in analyzing the performance of the programs or practices.

15 (d) The department shall use information obtained under
16 this section to:

17 (1) monitor prevention and early intervention
18 [~~parenting education~~] programs and practices;

19 (2) continually improve the quality of the programs
20 and practices; and

21 (3) evaluate the effectiveness of the programs and
22 practices.

23 SECTION 7. Section 265.154, Family Code, is amended to read
24 as follows:

25 Sec. 265.154. REPORTS TO LEGISLATURE. (a) Not later than
26 December 1 of each even-numbered year, the department shall prepare
27 and submit a report on state-funded prevention and early

1 intervention [~~parenting education~~] programs and practices to the
2 standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with
3 jurisdiction over child protective services.

4 (b) A report submitted under this section must include:

5 (1) a description of the prevention and early
6 intervention [~~parenting education~~] programs and practices
7 implemented and of the models associated with the programs and
8 practices;

9 (2) information on the families served by the programs
10 and practices, including the number of families served and their
11 demographic information;

12 (3) the goals and achieved outcomes of the programs
13 and practices;

14 (4) information on the cost for each family served,
15 including any available third-party return-on-investment analysis;
16 and

17 (5) information explaining the percentage of money
18 spent on evidence-based programs and practices, on promising
19 [~~practice~~] programs and practices, and on evidence-informed
20 programs and practices.

21 SECTION 8. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.