

By: Dutton

H.B. No. 940

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of the private child care task force.

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

SECTION 1. (a) In this section, "task force" means the private child care task force.

(b) The private child care task force is established to study private child care providers in this state and methods to reduce the amounts charged for and increase the availability of child care provided by private child care providers.

(c) The task force is composed of seven members appointed as follows:

(1) one member appointed by the governor to represent the governor;

(2) three members of the senate, appointed by the lieutenant governor; and

(3) three members of the house of representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house of representatives.

(d) A task force member is not entitled to compensation for service on the task force but is entitled to reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses incurred in performing task force duties. The task force may accept gifts, grants, and donations to pay for those expenses.

(e) The member appointed by the governor shall serve as the presiding officer of the task force.

1 (f) The task force shall meet at least quarterly at the call
2 of the presiding officer.

3 (g) Notwithstanding Chapter 551, Government Code, or any
4 other law, the task force may meet by telephone conference call,
5 videoconference, or other similar telecommunication method. A
6 meeting held by telephone conference call, videoconference, or
7 other similar telecommunication method is subject to the
8 requirements of Sections 551.125(c), (d), (e), and (f), Government
9 Code.

10 (h) The task force shall conduct a study to examine the
11 amounts charged for and the availability of child care provided by
12 private child care providers and methods to reduce those costs and
13 increase the availability of that care. The task force may request
14 relevant information from the Health and Human Services Commission,
15 and the commission shall comply with the request.

16 (i) The task force shall develop recommendations to reduce
17 the amounts charged for and increase the availability of child care
18 by private child care providers.

19 (j) The task force shall develop and submit a written report
20 on the study and recommendations developed by the task force to the
21 governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of
22 representatives, and each member of the legislature not later than
23 November 1, 2024.

24 (k) The task force is abolished and this Act expires June 1,
25 2024.

26 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
27 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as

H.B. No. 940

1 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
3 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.