

BILL ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 3096
By: Cunningham
Human Services
Committee Report (Substituted)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The bill author has informed the committee that the Profound Autism Alliance wants to raise awareness for the individuals and caregivers who are affected by profound autism, noting that individuals affected by profound autism require constant care due to the severity of the condition and, because of these unique needs, they are often excluded from research and their caregivers are often isolated from outside support. C.S.H.B. 3096 seeks to raise awareness for those affected by profound autism by designating March 17th as Profound Autism Day.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

C.S.H.B. 3096 amends the Government Code to designate March 17 as Profound Autism Awareness Day to raise awareness about profound autism. The bill notes that people with profound autism often require continuous care from an adult caregiver throughout their lives, may have severe intellectual disabilities, difficulty speaking, or an inability to speak, and are frequently excluded from research and support programs because of their unique needs. The bill authorizes Profound Autism Awareness Day to be regularly observed by appropriate ceremonies and activities, including by showing support for those who experience profound autism and providing information regarding resources for people with profound autism and their caregivers.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2025.

COMPARISON OF INTRODUCED AND SUBSTITUTE

While C.S.H.B. 3096 may differ from the introduced in minor or nonsubstantive ways, the following summarizes the substantial differences between the introduced and committee substitute versions of the bill.

The substitute replaces a provision of the introduced requiring Profound Autism Awareness Day to be regularly observed by appropriate ceremonies and activities with a provision authorizing that day to be regularly observed in that manner.