

BILL ANALYSIS

S.B. 599
By: West
Human Services
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) establishes comprehensive statewide minimum standards for the health and safety of child-care facilities and registered family homes. Additional HHSC responsibilities include collecting and publishing data on reported incidents in licensed day-care centers that impair the basic safety, health, or welfare of a child in collaboration with the Department of Family and Protective Services. However, the bill sponsor has informed the committee that some Texas cities, through municipal code enforcement, have required state licensed child-care homes and family homes to modify their facilities beyond the scope of state-level child-care regulation and that some cities are restricting child-care center capacity beyond the restrictions in state standards. S.B. 599 seeks to provide regulatory certainty for group day-care homes and family homes by prohibiting a political subdivision from requiring those facilities to comply with health and safety standards that exceed the standards established by statute or HHSC rule.

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

S.B. 599 amends the Local Government Code to prohibit a political subdivision from adopting or enforcing an ordinance, order, or other measure that requires a group day-care home or family home licensed, registered, or listed under Human Resources Code provisions relating to the regulation of certain facilities, homes, and agencies that provide child-care services to comply with health and safety standards that exceed the standards established by statute or HHSC rule.

EFFECTIVE DATE

On passage, or, if the bill does not receive the necessary vote, September 1, 2025.