

By: Lalani

H.B. No. 1541

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of an advisory committee to study and make recommendations on services provided to individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 547, Government Code, as effective April 1, 2025, is amended by adding Subchapter D-1 to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER D-1. INTELLECTUAL AND DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITY

SERVICES AND SUPPORTS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Sec. 547.0191. DEFINITION. In this subchapter, "advisory committee" means the intellectual and developmental disability services and supports advisory committee established under this subchapter.

Sec. 547.0192. ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY COMMITTEE. The commission shall establish the intellectual and developmental disability services and supports advisory committee to:

(1) conduct a study identifying and evaluating gaps in access to acute and long-term care services and supports for individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability; and

(2) provide to the legislature recommendations to address those gaps in access.

Sec. 547.0193. ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS. (a) The executive commissioner shall appoint relevant stakeholders to serve as advisory committee members, including:

- 1 (1) representatives of the commission;
- 2 (2) representatives of the Department of State Health
3 Services;
- 4 (3) representatives of the Private Providers
5 Association of Texas;
- 6 (4) representatives of local intellectual and
7 developmental disability authorities;
- 8 (5) representatives of intellectual and developmental
9 disability advocacy organizations;
- 10 (6) persons with expertise on intellectual and
11 developmental disability services and supports;
- 12 (7) representatives of long-term services and
13 supports providers;
- 14 (8) representatives of managed care organizations;
- 15 (9) individuals with an intellectual or developmental
16 disability who receive services or supports; and
- 17 (10) parents or other family members of individuals
18 with an intellectual or developmental disability who receive
19 services or supports.

20 (b) The executive commissioner shall appoint an advisory
21 committee member to serve as the advisory committee's presiding
22 officer.

23 (c) The executive commissioner shall fill a vacancy that
24 occurs on the advisory committee in the same manner as the original
25 appointment as soon as practicable but not later than the 60th day
26 after the date the vacancy occurs.

27 Sec. 547.0194. EXPENSES. An advisory committee member is

1 not entitled to compensation but is entitled to reimbursement for
2 actual and necessary expenses incurred in performing advisory
3 committee duties. The advisory committee may accept gifts, grants,
4 and donations to pay for those expenses.

5 Sec. 547.0195. MEETINGS. (a) The advisory committee shall
6 meet at least quarterly.

7 (b) The advisory committee may conduct meetings in person or
8 remotely.

9 Sec. 547.0196. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT. The commission
10 shall provide administrative support for the advisory committee
11 using existing resources.

12 Sec. 547.0197. STUDY; BIENNIAL REPORT. (a) The advisory
13 committee shall:

14 (1) evaluate the adequacy of state and federal funding
15 for acute and long-term care services and supports for individuals
16 with an intellectual or developmental disability;

17 (2) evaluate the financial sustainability of current
18 service delivery models;

19 (3) evaluate the availability and capacity of trained
20 professionals, caregivers, and support staff necessary to deliver
21 services for individuals with an intellectual or developmental
22 disability;

23 (4) identify best practices and innovative models used
24 in and outside this state for services provided to individuals with
25 an intellectual or developmental disability;

26 (5) evaluate the quality of current services provided
27 in this state to individuals with an intellectual or developmental

1 disability;

2 (6) evaluate the effectiveness of programs designed to
3 promote health, education, employment, and community inclusion for
4 individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability;

5 (7) identify factors that contribute to mental health
6 conditions affecting individuals with an intellectual or
7 developmental disability;

8 (8) evaluate public safety net services, including the
9 role, functions, and capacity of local intellectual and
10 developmental disability authorities to coordinate services and
11 supports to meet the needs of individuals with an intellectual or
12 developmental disability; and

13 (9) review and identify areas for improvement to the
14 Texas Statewide Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
15 Strategic Plan developed by the IDD Strategic Planning Group.

16 (b) Not later than August 31 of each even-numbered year, the
17 advisory committee shall prepare and submit to the legislature and
18 each standing committee of the legislature with primary
19 jurisdiction over intellectual and developmental disability issues
20 a written report that includes:

21 (1) a summary of the results of the advisory
22 committee's findings under Subsection (a);

23 (2) recommendations to address gaps in access to acute
24 and long-term care services and supports for individuals with an
25 intellectual or developmental disability;

26 (3) recommendations for legislative or administrative
27 action, including legislation or rules, to implement the advisory

1 committee's recommendations;

2 (4) a complete explanation of each of the advisory
3 committee's recommendations; and

4 (5) suggested timelines for implementing each of the
5 advisory committee's recommendations.

6 Sec. 547.0198. EXPIRATION. (a) Not later than December 1,
7 2028, the commission shall prepare and submit to the legislature a
8 report that contains a recommendation on whether the advisory
9 committee should be continued or abolished.

10 (b) The advisory committee is abolished and this subchapter
11 expires September 1, 2029.

12 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
13 of this Act but not later than December 1, 2025, the executive
14 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall
15 appoint members to the intellectual and developmental disability
16 services and supports advisory committee as required by Section
17 547.0193, Government Code, as added by this Act.

18 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.