

By: Garcia of Bexar

H.B. No. 1966

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study on the housing needs of youth transitioning out of foster care or the juvenile justice system.

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

SECTION 1. (a) In this section, "council" means the Texas Interagency Council for the Homeless established under Subchapter [KK](#), Chapter [2306](#), Government Code.

(b) The council shall conduct a study to examine the housing needs of youth transitioning from foster care or the juvenile justice system to independent living.

(c) In conducting the study under this section, the council shall:

(1) examine the risk of homelessness for youth transitioning out of foster care in this state;

(2) examine the risk of homelessness for youth transitioning out of the juvenile justice system in this state;

(3) assess the unique housing needs of youth who:

(A) have previously been classified as a dual status child, as defined by Section [51.02](#), Family Code; and

(B) are part of a disproportionately represented population in foster care, the juvenile justice system, or both;

(4) evaluate relevant programs and practices of state agencies that seek to positively impact the transition of youth out of foster care or the juvenile justice system; and

1 (5) consult with individuals with expertise on issues
2 faced by youth transitioning out of foster care, the juvenile
3 justice system, or both.

4 (d) Not later than November 1, 2026, the council shall
5 prepare and submit to the Texas Department of Housing and Community
6 Affairs and the legislature a written report that:

7 (1) summarizes the results of the study conducted
8 under this section; and

9 (2) includes legislative recommendations based on the
10 results of the study, including recommendations to improve the
11 transition of youth out of foster care and the juvenile justice
12 system.

13 SECTION 2. This Act expires December 31, 2026.

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