

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of the Quad-Agency Child Care Initiative and the Quad-Agency Child Care Initiative Commission.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle B, Title 3, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Chapter 74 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 74. QUAD-AGENCY CHILD CARE INITIATIVE

Sec. 74.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Commission" means the Quad-Agency Child Care Initiative Commission unless the context indicates otherwise.

(2) "Initiative" means the Quad-Agency Child Care Initiative established under this chapter.

(3) "Participating agency" means a state agency participating in the initiative, including:

(A) the Texas Workforce Commission;

(B) the Health and Human Services Commission;

(C) the Department of Family and Protective Services; and

(D) the Texas Education Agency.

(4) "Quad-Agency chair" means the chair of the commission.

Sec. 74.002. PURPOSE. (a) The Quad-Agency Child Care Initiative is established to foster collaboration, coordinate policies, and review and recommend actions to streamline

1 regulations between the participating agencies that govern child  
2 care in the state.

3 (b) The Quad-Agency Child Care Initiative Commission is  
4 established to lead the Quad-Agency Child Care Initiative.

5 Sec. 74.003. MEMBERSHIP. (a) The commission is composed of  
6 the following members:

7 (1) the chair of the Texas Workforce Commission or the  
8 chair's designee;

9 (2) the executive commissioner of the Health and Human  
10 Services Commission or the executive commissioner's designee;

11 (3) the commissioner of the Department of Family and  
12 Protective Services or the commissioner's designee; and

13 (4) the commissioner of education or the  
14 commissioner's designee.

15 (b) The chair of the Texas Workforce Commission or the  
16 chair's designee shall serve as the chair of the commission.

17 Sec. 74.004. INTERAGENCY STAFFING. (a) The participating  
18 agencies shall enter into one or more interagency agreements  
19 establishing policies and processes for coordinating the  
20 assignment of existing staff and other resources as necessary to  
21 perform the duties of this chapter.

22 (b) The time spent by an employee of a participating agency  
23 in supporting the work of the initiative is not included in  
24 calculating the number of full-time equivalent employees allotted  
25 to the respective agencies under other law.

26 Sec. 74.005. DUTIES. The commission shall:

27 (1) coordinate participating agency initiatives that

1 impact the cost, quality, or accessibility of child care;

2 (2) consider and start interagency initiatives to  
3 expand access to quality, affordable child care; and

4 (3) review and recommend actions to streamline  
5 existing or proposed regulations, rules, policies, or any other  
6 participating agency actions that impact the child-care industry  
7 to:

8 (A) resolve regulatory conflicts and duplication  
9 among participating agencies;

10 (B) lower insurance costs for child-care  
11 providers;

12 (C) protect the health and safety of children  
13 participating in child care;

14 (D) advance quality education for child-care  
15 providers; and

16 (E) create consistent, predictable, and  
17 reasonable enforcement mechanisms among participating agencies.

18 Sec. 74.006. MEETINGS. (a) The commission shall meet at  
19 least three times each year.

20 (b) The commission may meet in person or using a virtual  
21 platform that allows for a recording and live broadcast that is  
22 accessible to the public.

23 (c) The commission is a governmental body for purposes of  
24 Chapter 551, Government Code.

25 (d) Not later than the 30th day after the date a meeting is  
26 held under this section, the Quad-Agency chair shall:

27 (1) prepare and submit to the office of the governor a

1 report that includes a list of existing or proposed regulations,  
2 rules, policies, or other participating agency actions under review  
3 by the commission; and

4 (2) make the report prepared under Subdivision (1)  
5 available to the public on the Texas Workforce Commission's  
6 Internet website until the second anniversary of the date the  
7 meeting is held under this section.

8 Sec. 74.007. SUBJECT MATTER EXPERT INPUT. (a) In  
9 performing a duty under Section 74.005, the Quad-Agency chair may  
10 request input from a subject matter expert, including a child-care  
11 provider. Input requested under this section may be:

12 (1) submitted in writing; or

13 (2) provided in person at a meeting held under Section  
14 74.006.

15 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), the commission  
16 shall make all written submissions by a subject matter expert  
17 available to the public on the Texas Workforce Commission's  
18 Internet website until the second anniversary of the date the  
19 submission is made.

20 (c) A subject matter expert who makes a written submission  
21 may request the written submission be kept confidential. If a  
22 subject matter expert requests that the written submission be kept  
23 confidential, the commission may not make the written submission  
24 available to the public on the Texas Workforce Commission's  
25 Internet website.

26 Sec. 74.008. REVIEW BY COMMISSION. (a) The Quad-Agency  
27 chair may initiate an independent review by the commission of any

1 existing or proposed regulation, rule, policy, or other  
2 participating agency action that may impact the cost, quality, or  
3 accessibility of child care to determine whether:

4 (1) the regulation, rule, policy, or other agency  
5 action is consistent with the objectives identified in Section  
6 74.005(3); and

7 (2) a less restrictive regulation, rule, policy, or  
8 other agency action could more effectively achieve the objectives  
9 identified in Section 74.005(3).

10 (b) In conducting a review under this section, the  
11 Quad-Agency chair may request additional information from a  
12 participating agency. A participating agency shall provide the  
13 additional information in writing as soon as practicable after  
14 receiving a request under this section.

15 (c) The commission shall:

16 (1) not later than the 10th business day after the date  
17 a review is initiated under this chapter, provide notice of the  
18 review, including instructions on how to submit public comments on  
19 the review:

20 (A) on the Texas Workforce Commission's Internet  
21 website;

22 (B) by e-mail to individuals who have subscribed  
23 to receive notifications through the Texas Workforce Commission's  
24 Internet website; and

25 (C) using any other relevant stakeholder  
26 communication platforms; and

27 (2) make the following available to the public on the

Texas Workforce Commission's Internet website for each review conducted under this chapter for not less than two years from the date a determination is made under Section 74.011:

(A) all public comments submitted;

(B) all written agency submissions; and

(C) the determination of the commission based on the review.

Sec. 74.009. RIGHT TO REQUEST REVIEW. (a) The commission shall establish a process by which members of the public, elected officials, or leadership from agencies that are not participating agencies may request a review of any existing or proposed regulation, rule, policy, or other participating agency action that may impact the cost, quality, or accessibility of child care.

(b) The Quad-Agency chair may grant a request to conduct a review requested under this section.

(c) The commission shall make all requests for review granted under Subsection (b) available to the public on the Texas Workforce Commission's Internet website for not less than two years from the date the Quad-Agency chair grants the request.

Sec. 74.010. PUBLIC COMMENT. (a) For each review conducted under this chapter, the commission shall accept public comment through the Texas Workforce Commission's Internet website from the date notice regarding the review is provided under Section 74.008(c)(1) until the end of the 30th day after that date.

(b) As part of a review under this chapter, the Quad-Agency chair:

(1) shall consider all comments received within the

1 public comment period provided under Subsection (a); and

2 (2) may consider public comments received outside of  
3 the public comment period provided under Subsection (a).

4 Sec. 74.011. DETERMINATION. (a) After a public comment  
5 period under Section 74.010 has closed, the commission shall render  
6 the commission's determination as to whether or not the existing or  
7 proposed regulation, rule, policy, or other participating agency  
8 action reviewed under this chapter is consistent with the  
9 objectives identified in Section 74.005(3).

10 (b) If the commission determines that the existing or  
11 proposed regulation, rule, policy, or other participating agency  
12 action reviewed under this chapter is consistent with the  
13 objectives identified in Section 74.005(3), no further action will  
14 be taken. If the commission determines that the existing or  
15 proposed regulation, rule, policy, or other participating agency  
16 action reviewed under this chapter is inconsistent with the  
17 objectives identified in Section 74.005(3), or if the commission  
18 cannot reach a determination, the commission shall submit the  
19 commission's findings to the Texas Regulatory Efficiency Office.

20 (c) If the commission submits the commission's findings to  
21 the Texas Regulatory Efficiency Office, the Texas Regulatory  
22 Efficiency Office shall conduct a review of the commission's  
23 findings and render a final determination as to whether the  
24 existing or proposed regulation, rule, policy, or other  
25 participating agency action reviewed under this chapter is  
26 consistent with the objectives identified in Section 74.005(3).

27 (d) If the Texas Regulatory Efficiency Office determines

1 that the existing or proposed regulation, rule, policy, or other  
2 participating agency action reviewed under this chapter:

3 (1) is consistent with the objectives identified in  
4 Section 74.005(3), no further action will be taken; or

5 (2) is inconsistent with the objectives identified in  
6 Section 74.005(3), the participating agency whose existing or  
7 proposed regulation, rule, policy, or other agency action was the  
8 subject of the review shall:

9 (A) cease any enforcement activity related to the  
10 regulation, rule, policy, or other agency action as soon as  
11 practicable;

12 (B) withdraw the regulation, rule, policy, or  
13 other agency action as soon as practicable; and

14 (C) if the participating agency considers  
15 appropriate, replace the regulation, rule, policy, or other agency  
16 action with a less restrictive regulation, rule, policy, or other  
17 agency action.

18 (e) The commission and the Texas Regulatory Efficiency  
19 Office may provide suggestions to a participating agency on less  
20 restrictive regulations, rules, policies, or other agency actions  
21 the agency may adopt to replace a regulation, rule, policy, or other  
22 agency action that the commission considers inconsistent with the  
23 objectives identified in Section 74.005(3).

24 (f) This section may not be construed to:

25 (1) authorize the commission or the Texas Regulatory  
26 Efficiency Office to require a participating agency to adopt a less  
27 restrictive regulation, rule, policy, or other agency action



1 suggested by the commission under Subsection (e); or

2 (2) prohibit a participating agency from withdrawing  
3 or replacing an existing regulation, rule, policy, or other  
4 participating agency action under law or agency procedure.

5 SECTION 2. Not later than December 31, 2025, the  
6 Quad-Agency Child Care Initiative Commission shall hold the first  
7 meeting required under Section 74.006, Human Resources Code, as  
8 added by this Act.

9 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
13 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

H.B. No. 4903

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 4903 was passed by the House on May 12, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 137, Nays 9, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 4903 on May 28, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 102, Nays 29, 1 present, not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 4903 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 25, 2025, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

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Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

Date

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Governor