

By: Hancock
(Noble)

S.B. No. 2041

Substitute the following for S.B. No. 2041:

By: Hull

C.S.S.B. No. 2041

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to procedures for selecting a placement for a child in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services.

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

SECTION 1. Section 264.107, Family Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a) and amending Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(a) Before placing a child in contract residential care, the department shall attempt to place the child with a relative or other designated caregiver as required by Section 262.114(d).

(c) In selecting a contract residential placement for a child, the department shall consider whether the placement is in the child's best interest. In determining whether a placement is in a child's best interest, the department shall consider whether the placement:

(1) is the least restrictive setting for the child;

(2) is the closest in geographic proximity to the child's home;

(3) is the most able to meet the identified needs of the child; ~~and~~

(4) satisfies any expressed interests of the child relating to placement, when developmentally appropriate; and

(5) is able to meet the long-term needs of the child,

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1 including placement stability.

2 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.