



**OVERVIEW OF TECEC-RELATED HOUSE AND SENATE BILLS
AND JOINT RESOLUTIONS FILED BY CATEGORY
80TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION**

Running Counts

Number of Bills that Died During Legislative Process: **40 out of 46**
 Number of Bills Considered and Passed by Both Houses to Date: **6 out of 46**

CATEGORY	BILL NUMBER (S)
Early Childhood Education	SB 50
School Vouchers	HB 18; SB 1000
Nurse-Family Partnerships	HB 424; SB 156
Child Safety	HB 62; HB 140; HB 203; HB 1174; HB 1322; HB 3009; HB 3040; SB 21; SB 88; SB 98; SB 206; SB 226; SB 265;
Certification for EC Teachers	HB 134
Class Size Limits in Pre-k Classrooms	HB 135; HB 170; HB 251; HB 296; HB 2941; SB 895
Child Care Assistance	HB 1826; HB 1845
Infant Care	HB 199; HB 1770; SB 1141
Child Care Licensing	HB 332; HB 406; HB 1385; HB 1785; HB 1786; HB 1912; HB 2332; SB 218; SB 1703
Special Education	HB 439; SB 1625
Eligibility for Pre-k	HB 482; HB 575; SB 113; SB 264; SB 335

Key

HB= House Bill

SB= Senate Bill

HB/SB= Died in Legislative Process

HB/SB= Passed Both Houses and Awaiting the Governor's Approval

HB/SB= Bill did not pass in original form but did pass as amended on to Another Bill

FILED HOUSE AND SENATE BILLS FOR 80TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bills Filed in the Texas House of Representatives *Related to Early Childhood Care and Education*

HB 18

Relating To: Creation of a public education voucher program for certain children

Author(s): Rep. Frank Corte, San Antonio

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill proposes child eligibility (including Pre-k) criteria for publicly financed vouchers to be used in private school setting. Examples of eligibility include: (1) a child is educationally disadvantaged; (2) child is eligible to attend school in one of the six largest districts in the state; and (3) was enrolled in a school that has failed to perform satisfactorily on its most recent assessment instrument. In addition, this bill details how parents are to be notified regarding their child's eligibility, and proposes financing and assessment criteria.

Committee Assignment: Public Education

Status: **Never Heard in Committee**

HB 62

Relating To: Proximity of the Residences of certain sex offenders or sexually violent predators to schools

Author(s): Rep. David Leibowitz, Helotes

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill applies to persons required to register due to conviction or adjudication involving a victim 14 years or younger, or civilly committed as a sexually violent predator and subject to outpatient. Specifically, such a person may not reside within 1,000 feet of a public or private school campus.

Committee Assignment: Criminal Jurisprudence

Status: **Died in Committee**

HB 134

Relating To: Teacher certification in early childhood education

Author(s): Rep. Michael Villarreal, San Antonio

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill requires individuals seeking certification in early childhood education—for example, EC-4—to take a minimum of 6 credit hours in courses emphasizing early childhood education and development, and posits that the curriculum of these courses needs to be based on standards articulated by NAEYC. In addition, it provides a flexible option for persons seeking to complete required fieldwork and internship placements.

Committee Assignment: Public Education

Status: **Died in Committee**

HB 135

Relating To: Limits on the size of pre-k classes

Author(s): Rep. Michael Villarreal, San Antonio

Companion Bill: Read First Time and Referred to Cmte

Summary:

This bill requires that school districts report their PK class sizes to the local education agency. In addition, this bill recommends that class size limits be limited to no more than 18, and maintain staff-to-child ratios of 1:10.

Committee Assignment: Public Education

Status: **Died in Committee**

HB 140

Relating To: Regulating the operation of a daycare center

Author(s): Rep. Jim Jackson, Carrollton; Rep. John Davis, Houston

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill requires that directors, owners, or operators of day-care centers submit and require quality fingerprinting of employees for the purposes of state and federal background checks, and imposes criminal penalties if these directives are ignored or if information collected as a result of these searches is not acted upon if, for example, an employee is found to be convicted of a crime and is allowed access to the day-care site. In addition, criminal penalties are applicable if a day-care owner or operator operates a center without a director who meets required qualifications or without a routine presence.

Committee Assignment: Human Services

Status: **Died in Committee**

HB 170

Relating To: Limits on the size of pre-k classes

Author(s): Rep. Richard Raymond, Laredo

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill requires that school districts enroll no more than 18 students in pre-k classrooms and no more than 22 students in K-4 classrooms. However, exemptions are possible if approved by the commissioner and where such class size limits pose a hardship. Parents are to be notified in writing that contains various specifications.

Committee Assignment: Public Education

Status: **Never Heard in Committee**

HB 199

Relating To: Residential infant care program for incarcerated mothers

Author(s): Rep. Jerry Madden, Richardson; Rep. Richard Noriega, Houston; Rep. David Leibowitz, San Antonio

Senate Sponsors: Sen. John Whitmire, Houston; Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, San Antonio

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill requires the Department of Criminal Justice to implement a residential infant care and parenting program for mothers confined by the department. To the extent practicable, this bill requires that this program be modeled after the Federal bureau of Prisons' Mothers and Infants Together program operated in Ft. Worth, Texas.

Committee Assignment: Corrections

Status: **Sent to the Governor**

HB 203

Relating To: Prohibiting sex offenders from residing in safety zones

Author(s): Rep. Jose Menendez, San Antonio

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill requires judges to establish child safety zones applicable to defendants convicted of a sexual offense where defendant may not participate or supervise in any program that includes persons 17 years of age or younger, and go in, on, or within 1000 ft. of a premises where children commonly gather.

Committee Assignment: Corrections

Status: Never Heard in Committee

HB 251

Relating To: Limits on the size of pre-k classes

Author(s): Rep. Mark Strama, Austin

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill requires that school districts ensure that no more than 22 students are enrolled in PK-4 classrooms, but does allow some flexibility for certain 12 week periods.

Committee Assignment: Public Education

Status: Never Heard in Committee

HB 296

Relating To: Limits on the size of pre-k classes

Author(s): Rep. Jessica Farrar, Houston

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill requires that school districts enroll no more than 18 students in pre-k classrooms and no more than 22 students in K-4 classrooms. However, exemptions are possible if approved by the commissioner and where such class size limits pose a hardship. Parents are to be notified in writing that contains various specifications.

Committee Assignment: Public Education

Status: Never Heard in Committee

HB 332

Relating To: Exemptions from childcare licensing requirements

Author(s): Rep. Warren Chisum, Pampa; Rep. David Swinford, Amarillo

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill describes characteristics of organizations and entities that childcare licensing exemptions apply to. Examples include any state operated facility, an agency foster home, a youth camp, and a facility operated in or connected with a shopping center, business, religious organization or establishment where children are cared for during short periods when parents are engaged in other activities. This bill seeks to amend section 42.041(b) of the Texas Human Resources Code.

Committee Assignment: Public Health

Status: point of order sustained; died on House floor

HB 406

Relating To: License requirements for preschool and after-school programs operated by public or private schools.

Author(s): Rep. Will Hartnett, Dallas

Companion Bill: SB 218, identical

Summary:

This bill describes characteristics of organizations and entities that childcare licensing exemptions apply to. Examples include any state operated facility, an agency foster home, a youth camp, and

a facility operated in or connected with a shopping center, business, religious organization or establishment where children are cared for during short periods when parents are engaged in other activities. Like HB 332, this bill seeks to amend section 42.041 (b) of the Texas Human Resources Code.

Committee Assignment: Human Services

Status: **Died in Committee**

HB 424

Relating To: Relating to a competitive grant program to fund nurse-family partnership programs in certain communities in this state.

Author(s): Rep. Jerry Madden, Richardson; Rep. Dawnna Dukes, Austin; Rep. Will Hartnett, Dallas; Rep. Diane Delisi, Temple; Rep. Elliott Naishtat, Austin; Rep. Rafael Anchia, Dallas; Rep. Jimmie Aycock, Killeen; Rep. Valinda Bolton, Austin; Rep. Betty Brown, Terrell; Rep. Ellen Cohen, Houston; Rep. Byron Cook, Corsicana; Rep. Joe Crabb, Atascocita; Rep. Kirk England, Grand Prairie; Rep. Helen Giddings, Dallas; Rep. Veronica Gonzales, McAllen; Rep. Donna Howard, Austin; Rep. Jim Jackson, Carrollton; Rep. Susan King, Abilene; Rep. Dora Olivo, Rosenberg; Rep. Solomon Ortiz, Jr., Corpus Christi; Rep. Paula Pierson, Arlington; Rep. Eddie Rodriguez, Austin; Rep. Patrick Rose, Dripping Springs; Rep. Mark Strama, Austin; Rep. Vicki Truitt, Keller.

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill creates competitive grant programs to implement new or to expand existing programs for nurse-family partnerships in multiple communities that provide services to at least 2,000 families with low-income, first-time mothers. Public and private entities may apply and these partnerships are partially geared towards enhancing school readiness.

Committee Assignment: Public Health

Status: **Died on House Floor**

HB 439

Relating To: Statewide plan for delivery services to public school students with disabilities and resources for teachers of public school students with special health needs

Author(s): Rep. Scott Hochberg, Houston; Rep. Abel Herrero, Robstown; Rep. Rob Eissler, Woodlands

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill requires the Texas Education Agency to develop a statewide design for the delivery of services to children with disabilities, between the ages of 3 and 21. In addition, school districts must provide teachers appropriate information, training, and assistance necessary to effectively assist their special education students.

Committee Assignment: Public Education

Status: **Died on House Floor**

HB 482

Relating To: Eligibility of certain educationally disadvantaged students to attend free pre-k classes

Author(s): Rep. Michael Villarreal, San Antonio

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill proposes that a child eligible for enrollment in a pre-k class due to placement in foster or other residential care under the Department of Family and Protective Services will remain eligible if the child is adopted after enrollment.

Committee Assignment: Senate Education

Status: **Died in Committee**

HB 575

Relating To: Eligibility of foster children for pre-k

Author(s): Rep. Joe Straus, San Antonio

Companion Bill: SB 113, Identical

Summary:

This bill proposes that if a child is eligible to enroll in a pre-k class based on the fact that the child is at least 3 years of age and is unable to speak and comprehend the English language, is educationally disadvantaged, homeless, the child of an active duty member of the armed forces, and/or in foster care, and that child's foster care status changes while enrolled, the child may remain eligible for pre-k.

Committee Assignment: Public Education

Status: **Never Heard in Committee**

HB 1174

Relating To: Relating to prohibiting certain sex offenders from residing or working within or otherwise approaching certain premises where children commonly gather; providing a penalty

Author(s): Rep. Jodie Laubenberg, Rockwall

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill requires that if a judge grants community supervision to a defendant whose victim was a child, the defendant may not supervise or participate in any program that includes persons 17 years of age or younger, and may not work, reside in or go in, on, or within 1,000 feet of a premises where children commonly gather. A violation of this requirement may include a felony charge.

Committee Assignment: Criminal Jurisprudence

Status: **Never Heard in Committee**

HB 1322

Relating To: Relating to retaliation against employees of a child-care facility

Author(s): Rep. Joe Farias, San Antonio

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill proposes that an employee of a child care facility has a cause of action if his or her employment is terminated or who is discriminated against or retaliated against for: (1) reporting to, for example, the state licensing authority, a violation; and (2) initiating or cooperating in an investigation dealing with the facility. The bill also proposes certain compensations based on such termination, discrimination, and/or retaliation.

Committee Assignment: Civil Practices

Status: **Died in Committee**

HB 1385

Relating To: Relating to the regulation of certain employer-based day-care facilities

Author(s): Rep. Mike Villarreal, San Antonio; Rep. Lon Burnam, Fort Worth; Rep. Joe Straus, San Antonio

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Carlos Uresti, San Antonio

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill pertains to the regulation of small employer-based day care facilities and includes criminal background check procedures, and provides stipulations where the facility may only provide care if the parent/guardian of the child works within the building or, for example, is away from the building for a short time. The bill also proposes caregiver-to-child ratios, minimum standards, and caregiver qualifications.

Committee Assignment: Health & Human Services

Status: Sent to the Governor

HB 1770

Relating To: Relating to housing and medical care for pregnant inmates, or female inmates who have an infant, confined in a facility operated by or under contract with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

Author(s): Rep. Richard Noriega, Houston

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill would require the TX Dept. of Criminal Justice to create space in a medical facility that would be utilized to support pregnant female inmates and female inmates with infants. In addition, this bill would allow female inmates to temporarily transfer to this facility from other corrections locations.

Committee Assignment: Corrections

Status: Died in Committee

HB 1785

Relating To: Relating to granting variances to certain employer-based child-care facilities from certain standards applicable to licensed child-care facilities

Author(s): Rep. Mike Villarreal, San Antonio

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

In granting a variance under section 42.048(c) under the human resources code, this bill proposes that special consideration be given to employer-based child care facilities that provide care for a child whose parent or guardian is an employee of the small employer that operates the facility, who works within the same building, or who is away for short periods of time.

Committee Assignment: Human Services

Status: Died in Committee

HB 1786

Relating To: Relating to an exemption for certain programs from the child-care licensing requirements

Author(s): Rep. David Swinford, Dumas

Senate Sponsor: Sen. Kel Seliger, Amarillo

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill reinforces existing statute regarding facilities that are exempt from child care licensing but adds the following: a food distribution program that serves evening meals to children age 2 and older, and that is operated by a non-profit food bank.

Committee Assignment: Senate Health and Human Services

Status: Sent to the Governor

HB 1826

Relating To: Relating to monetary assistance for substitute care provided to a child by a relative caregiver

Author(s): Rep. Richard Raymond, Laredo

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill proposes to amend the family code and allow the department to provide monetary assistance, based on a caregiver assistance agreement, to a relative caregiver that has been appointed managing conservator of a child.

Committee Assignment: Appropriations

Status: Never Heard in Committee

HB 1845

Relating To: Relating to monetary assistance for care provided to children by certain relatives or other designated caregivers

Author(s): Rep. Garnet Coleman, Houston

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill proposes to amend the family code and allow the department to provide monetary assistance—through federal grants and other funding sources—based on a caregiver assistance agreement, to a relative or other designated caregiver that has been appointed managing conservator of a child.

Committee Assignment: Appropriations

Status: Never Heard in Committee

HB 1912

Relating To: Relating to an exemption for certain facilities from the child-care licensing requirements

Author(s): Rep. Vicki Truitt, Keller

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill reinforces existing child care licensing exemptions as defined in statute but adds: educational facilities that use an internationally recognized method for educating children in a prepared environment with mixed aged groups of prekindergarten and kindergarten aged students.

Committee Assignment: Human Services

Status: Died in Committee

HB 2332

Relating To: Relating to an exemption for certain facilities from the child-care licensing requirements

Author(s): Rep. Mark Homer, Paris

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill reinforces existing child care licensing exemptions as defined in statute but adds: an elementary age (ages 5-13) recreational program operated by a non-profit corporation that adopts standards of care but does not advertise as a child-care facility and does not collect compensation for its services.

Committee Assignment: Public Health

Status: Never Heard in Committee

HB 2941

Relating To: Relating to limits on the size of public school classes in prekindergarten, kindergarten, and grades one through four

Author(s): Rep. Valinda Bolton, Austin

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill proposes that a school district may not enroll more than 22 students in a pre-k, and k-4 classroom.

Committee Assignment: Public Education

Status: Never Heard in Committee

HB 3009

Relating To: Relating to supervising, monitoring, and restricting the location of certain sex offenders

Author(s): Rep. Paula Pierson, Arlington

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill requires parolees convicted of sexual offenses to wear technology that would track their locations in real time and alert the department if the individual approaches child safety zones or other geographic areas where the individual has restricted access.

Committee Assignment: Criminal Jurisprudence

Status: Died in Committee

HB 3040

Relating To: Relating to background and criminal history checks for certain providers of subsidized child care

Author(s): Rep. Patrick Rose, Dripping Springs

Companion Bill: SB 206

Summary:

This bill requires background checks for providers of unregulated self-arranged care by a provider who, for example, is at least 18 years of age, provides child care services for less than 24 hours a day to a child who is the grandchild or great-grandchild of the provider, the sibling of the provider or the niece/nephew of the provider. A memo of understanding would be drafted between the commission and the provider wherein the costs of such background checks would be reimbursed to the provider from the Child Care Development and Block Grant.

Committee Assignment: Human Services

Status: Never Heard in Committee

HB 3041

Relating To: Imposition of additional inspection and background and criminal history check requirements for day-care centers

Author(s): Rep. Patrick Rose, Dripping Springs

Companion Bill: SB 21, Identical

Summary:

This bill proposes that during an unannounced annual inspection of a day-care center, the department shall meet with the director designated as having on-site responsibility to assess whether the director meets the necessary qualifications. In addition, the director, owner or operator must submit a complete set of quality fingerprints for each person and submit to DPS and the FBI for a criminal background check. A person whose name is submitted may not provide care or have access to a child in the center.

Committee Assignment: Human Services

Status: Never Heard in Committee

Bills Filed in the Texas Senate Related to Early Childhood Care and Education

SB 21

Relating To: Imposition of additional inspection and background and criminal history check requirements for day-care centers

Author(s): Sen. Jane Nelson, Lewisville; Sen. Robert Nichols, Jacksonville; Sen. Royce West, Dallas

House Sponsor: Rep. Jim Jackson, Carrollton

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill proposes that during an unannounced annual inspection of a day-care center, the Department of Family and Protective Services shall meet with the director designated as having on-site responsibility to assess whether the director meets the necessary qualifications. In addition, the director, owner or operator must submit a complete set of quality fingerprints for each person and submit fingerprints in a form acceptable to DPS and the FBI for a criminal background check. A person whose name is submitted may not provide care or have access to a child in the center until the completion of the person's background and criminal history check.

Committee Assignment: House Human Services

Status: Amended on to SB 758 (Authored by Senators Jane Nelson and Carlos Uresti, and sponsored in the House by Reps. Patrick Rose, John Davis, Susan King, Elliott Naishtat, and Paula Pierson) which passed both Houses; awaits Governor's approval

SB 50

Relating To: Early childhood education

Author(s): Sen. Judith Zaffirini, Laredo

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This comprehensive bill seeks to expand Pre-k services through the TEEM model, increase reimbursement rates paid to child care providers, and improve the recruitment, retention, and quality of early childhood professionals.

Committee Assignment: Public Education

Status: Died on the House Floor; First part of the bill, however, that requires school districts to report their TPRI reading scores to the State Center was amended on to SB 1871 (Authored by Senators Judith Zaffirini and Leticia Van de Putte, and sponsored in the House by Rep. Scott Hochberg)

SB 88

Relating To: Proximity of sex offenders' residences

Author(s): Sen. Chris Harris, Arlington

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

Among other things, this bill requires judges to establish child safety zones applicable to defendants convicted of a sexual offense where defendant may not participate or supervise in any program that includes persons 17 years of age or younger, and go in, on, or within 1000 ft. of a premises where children commonly gather.

Committee Assignment: Criminal Justice

Status: Never Heard in Committee

SB 98

Relating To: Preparation of child impact statement

Author(s): Sen. Judith Zaffirini, Laredo

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill requires the legislative budget board to prepare a child impact statement for each bill or resolution other than an appropriations bill. This statement shall state whether and how a broad range of children's needs and access to resources will be affected by the proposed bill or how, for example, specific groups of children will be impacted more than others.

Committee Assignment: Administration

Status: Never Heard in Committee

SB 113

Relating To: Eligibility of foster children for pre-k

Author(s): Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, San Antonio; Sen. Carlos Uresti, San Antonio; Sen. Judith Zaffirini, Laredo.

Companion Bill: HB 575, Identical

Summary:

This bill proposes that if a child is eligible to enroll in a pre-k class based on the fact that the child is at least 3 years of age and is unable to speak and comprehend the English language, is educationally disadvantaged, homeless, the child of an active duty member of the armed forces, and/or in foster care, and that child's foster care status changes while enrolled, the child may remain eligible for pre-k

Committee Assignment: House Public Education

Status: Amended on to SB 758 (Authored by Senators Jane Nelson and Carlos Uresti, and sponsored in the House by Reps. Patrick Rose, John Davis, Susan King, Elliott Naishtat, and Paula Pierson) and HB 1137 (Authored by Rep. Scott Hochberg, and sponsored in the Senate by Sen. Judith Zaffirini; Both Passed in both Houses; each awaiting Governor's approval)

SB 156

Relating To: Relating to a competitive grant program to fund nurse-family partnership programs in certain communities in this state

Author(s): Sen. Florence Shapiro, Plano; Sen. John Carona, Dallas; Sen. Robert Deuell, Greenville; Sen. Rodney Ellis, Houston; Sen. Mario Gallegos, Houston; Sen. Chris Harris, Arlington; Sen. Glenn Hegar, Katy; Sen. Juan Hinojosa, McAllen; Sen. Kyle Janek, Houston; Sen. Jane Nelson, Lewisville; Sen. Kel Seliger, Amarillo; Sen. Carlos Uresti, San Antonio; Sen. Leticia Van de Putte, San Antonio; Sen. Royce West, Dallas; Sen. John Whitmire, Houston; Sen. Tommy Williams, The Woodlands; Sen. Judith Zaffirini, Laredo.

House Sponsor: Rep. Jerry Madden, Richardson

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill creates competitive grants programs for nurse-family partnerships in multiple communities that provide services to low-income homes with 1st time mothers. Public and private entities may apply and these partnerships are partially geared towards enhancing school readiness.

Committee Assignment: Public Health

Status: Sent to Governor's office

SB 206

Relating To: Relating to background and criminal history checks for certain providers of subsidized child care

Author(s): Sen. Jane Nelson, Lewisville; Sen. Florence Shapiro, Plano

Companion Bill: HB 3040

Summary:

This bill requires background and criminal history checks for providers of subsidized child care, including unregulated self-arranged child care. In addition, this bill would require the TWC to ensure that all monies directed to unregulated, self-arranged providers are only used to pay for care after a background check is verified, and to reimburse the costs of such checks to providers.

Committee Assignment: Human Services

Status: Died on House Floor

SB 218

Relating To: Relating to license requirements for preschool and after-school programs operated by public or private schools

Author(s): Sen. John Carona, Dallas

Companion Bill: HB 406, identical

Summary:

This bill would amend the human resources code regarding licensing requirements to require certain after-school child care programs to meet state licensing standards.

Committee Assignment: Human Services

Status: Died in conference committee

SB 226

Relating To: Relating to a computerized map system containing the locations of residences of registered sex offenders and premises where children commonly gather

Author(s): Sen. Chris Harris, Arlington

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill requires DPS to design, implement, and maintain a public, internet accessible, computerized map system that includes locations of residences of registered sex offenders.

Committee Assignment: Criminal Justice

Status: Never Heard in Committee

SB 264

Relating To: Relating to the availability of free prekindergarten programs in public schools

Author(s): Sen. Rodney Ellis, Houston

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill would amend the state education code regarding the amount of three and four year old children necessary to offer free pre-k classes in a school district, as well as define who is eligible for enrollment. While the bill maintains eligibility criteria for three year old children, it would allow all four year old children to be eligible for prekindergarten classes. In addition, this bill proposes changes to the Public Education Information Management System (PEIMS) that include requiring districts to expand demographic information, include the number of half-day and full-day pre-k classes offered by the district, as well as include funding sources for pre-k classes.

Committee Assignment: Education

Status: Never Heard in Committee

SB 265

Relating To: Relating to background and criminal history checks for, reporting requirements for, and audits of certain providers of subsidized child care

Author(s): Sen. Florence Shapiro, Plano; Sen. Jane Nelson, Grapevine

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

Similar to SB 206, this bill requires background and criminal history checks specifically for providers of unregulated self-arranged child care, and includes a notice and opportunity to be heard clause concerning accuracy of information. In addition, this bill would require audits of these care providers based on random sampling to ensure compliance. Also, DFPS would be allowed to obtain criminal history record information, for example, about applicants for license, certification, and/or registration as a provider in this category

Committee Assignment: Health and Human Services

Status: Never Heard in Committee

SB 335

Relating To: Relating to the eligibility to attend prekindergarten classes of a child under the care of a grandparent who has been appointed managing conservator of the child

Author(s): Sen. Van de Putte, San Antonio; Sen. Carlos Uresti, San Antonio

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill would expand eligibility for pre-k to three and four year old children that reside primarily with a grandparent who has been appointed managing conservator of the child by court order.

Committee Assignment: Education

Status: Never Heard in Committee

SB 895

Relating To: Relating to limits on the size of prekindergarten classes in public schools

Author(s): Sen. Kel Seliger, Amarillo

Companion Bill: HB 135

Summary:

This bill requires that school districts ensure that no more than 22 students are enrolled in PK-4 classrooms, but does allow some flexibility for certain 12 week periods.

Committee Assignment: Education

Status: Never Heard in Committee

SB 1000

Relating To: Relating to the accessibility of services for certain students with autism or autism spectrum disorder and to the training of and support for educators serving students with autism.

Author(s): Sen. Florence Shapiro, Plano; Sen. Robert Deuell, Greenville; Sen. Craig Estes, Wichita Falls; Sen. Chris Harris, Arlington; Sen. Kyle Janek, Houston; Sen. Jane Nelson, Lewisville; Sen. Robert Nichols, Jacksonville; Sen. Steve Ogden, Bryan; Sen. Dan Patrick, Houston; Sen. Jeff Wentworth, San Antonio; Sen. Tommy Williams, Woodlands.

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill creates a voucher option for children served in public school districts who qualify for special education services and who are diagnosed with Autism Spectrum Disorder.

Committee Assignment: Education

Status: Died on Senate Floor

SB 1141

Relating To: Relating to a demonstration project to provide consultation services to certain child-care providers

Author(s): Sen. Robert Deuell, Greenville

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill proposes that the office of early childhood coordination, in consultation with the department and the state center for early childhood development, shall implement a baby steps demonstration project for a two year period in at least two but not more than four regions of the state. The project shall provide a coordinated network of qualified consultants at a community level to assist certain child care providers to meet the health, safety, and nurturing needs of infants and toddlers in the providers' care. The project also provides for mentors and multi-disciplinary consultants.

Committee Assignment: Health and Human Services

Status: Never Heard in Committee

SB 1625

Relating To: Relating to the statewide plan for delivery of services to public school students with disabilities and resources for teachers of public school students with special health needs

Author(s): Sen. Kirk Watson, Austin

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill requires the Texas Education Agency to develop a statewide design for the delivery of services to children with disabilities, between the ages of 3 and 21. In addition, the agency must develop and implement a statewide plan with content and procedures designed to ensure state compliance with federal requirements involving the delivery of instruction or related services. In addition, this bill requires such things as the agency to periodically assess statewide personnel needs, ensure that regional service centers provide a support function, and that the agency monitor and conduct site visits of all districts.

Committee Assignment: Education

Status: Never Heard in Committee

SB 1703

Relating To: Relating to the inspection of registered or listed family homes

Author(s): Sen. Chris Harris, Arlington

Companion Bill: N/A

Summary:

This bill proposes that an authorized representative may visit a registered or listed family home during operating hours to inspect, investigate, and evaluate. An inspection may be required upon initial registration or listing, and will be conducted at least once per year following, or upon receipt of a complaint.

Committee Assignment: Health and Human Services

Status: Died in Committee