

New, Renamed, and Abolished State Government Entities 79th Legislature

**Regular Session
1st and 2nd Called Sessions
2005**

Prepared by the Research Division
of the
Texas Legislative Council

Published by the
Texas Legislative Council
P.O. Box 12128
Austin, Texas 78711-2128



Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst, Joint Chair
Speaker Tom Craddick, Joint Chair
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February 2006

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Foreword

Since 1997, the Texas Legislative Council publication *Summary of Enactments* has included a table to indicate statutory state agencies, interagency panels, advisory committees, and other state government entities that were created, restructured, or eliminated by the legislature. *New, Renamed, and Abolished State Government Entities* replaces the table with an expanded format that provides more information about the affected entities.

The New Entities section provides information on each new entity that has been created. Some of these new entities are tied to the abolishment of another entity, but are not considered a renaming or replacement of that entity because they have different functions and composition. An example is the Advisory Board on Barbering, which was created as part of the discontinuation of the State Board of Barber Examiners and transfer of its regulatory functions to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. The State Board of Barber Examiners is included in the section for abolished entities with a reference to the new entity.

The Renamed Entities section provides information on each entity that received a name change but retained substantially the same functions and composition.

The Abolished Entities section provides information on each entity that was abolished or discontinued because the statute creating it was repealed. If functions of the entity were transferred substantially unchanged to an already existing entity, that is noted. If functions were substantially revised and assigned to a new entity described in the New Entities section, that is noted.

For each entity included in the publication, the following information is provided:

Name—The name of the entity in the legislation. If the entity advises or is administratively attached to an agency, that agency's name appears in parentheses. For an entity that has been renamed, the previous name is indicated. For an abolished entity, if its functions are transferred, the entity that assumes those functions is also named.

Legislation—The bill and specific bill sections that contain provisions creating, renaming, or abolishing the entity and that contain other information, such as functions and composition. In some cases the entire bill is about the entity. The date the creation, renaming, or abolition of the entity becomes effective is provided. If creation of the entity is authorized instead of mandated, that is noted.

Functions—Powers and duties of the entity. For entities that have been renamed, if the functions have been revised, the functions under both the previous name and the new name are included. Information about the transfer of functions to another entity is included if applicable.

Composition—Membership information for the entity, including the number of members, eligibility criteria, and the selection process. If the composition of a renamed entity has been changed, the composition of the entity under both the previous name and the new name is included.

Expiration Date—The sunset date or other expiration date included in the legislation or in the entity's statutory authorization. If the entry is "None," it means that the entity has no express statutory date to expire.

New Entities

Arthritis Advisory Committee (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: Senate Bill 691, Section 1; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Advises the Department of State Health Services on developing and implementing the arthritis control and prevention program

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- Persons with arthritis
- Public health educators or other persons knowledgeable in health education
- Medical experts on arthritis
- Providers of arthritis health care
- Representatives of national arthritis organizations and their local chapters

All members are appointed by the commissioner of state health services.

Expiration date: None

Availability of Pre-Owned Heavy Duty Commercial Motor Vehicles, Study Commission on

Legislation: House Bill 2702, Section 3.04; creation is effective June 14, 2005

Functions:

- Conducts public hearings and studies public policy implications relating to any act by the Texas Department of Transportation that would close existing businesses in Texas because of the ownership structure of businesses that sell pre-owned heavy duty trucks that weigh in excess of 11,000 pounds, to include the following:
 - A review of the laws of other states regarding whether there are restrictions on ownership structure of businesses that sell heavy duty commercial trucks
 - A review of whether safety of pre-owned heavy duty trucks on Texas highways could be compromised if the Texas Department of Transportation closes businesses that currently sell such trucks
 - A review of whether the Texas Department of Transportation's application of Section 2301.476, Occupations Code, could negatively impact competition in the pre-owned heavy duty truck market as well as the impact that such a decision could have on small, independent pre-owned truck dealerships and independent owner/operators of trucking businesses in Texas
 - Other issues that the commission considers relevant to protecting the public interest regarding safety and availability of pre-owned heavy duty trucks that operate on Texas highways

- Reports to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house, and chairs of house and senate committees with jurisdiction of transportation issues not later than December 1, 2006

Composition (3 members total):

- 1 member appointed by the governor
- 1 member appointed by the lieutenant governor
- 1 member appointed by the speaker of the house

Expiration date: None stated, but the nature of the charge implies the committee's termination on submission of its report

Barbering, Advisory Board on (Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation)

Legislation: Senate Bill 411, Sections 2.03–2.07, 5.01, 6.01; creation is effective September 1, 2005; the State Board of Barber Examiners is continued in existence until January 1, 2006, for the sole purpose of transferring obligations, and its regulatory functions are transferred to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Functions:

- Advises the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation and the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation on education and curricula for applicants, the content of examinations, proposed rules and standards on technical issues related to barbering, and other issues affecting barbering
- Responds to questions from the department and the commission regarding barbering

Composition (5 members total):

- 2 members, each of whom is engaged in the practice of barbering as a Class A barber and does not hold a barbershop permit
- 2 members, each of whom is a barbershop owner who holds a barbershop permit
- 1 member who holds a permit to conduct or operate a barber school

All members are appointed by the presiding officer of the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation with the commission's approval.

Expiration date: None (removed from the Texas Sunset Act)

Bicycle Advisory Committee (Texas Department of Transportation)

Legislation: Senate Bill 602, Section 1; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Advises the Texas Transportation Commission on the development of bicycle tourism trails in Texas

Composition: To be determined by the Texas Department of Transportation

Expiration date: None

Binational Alcohol and Substance Abuse Task Force

Legislation: House Bill 3426, Section 1; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Functions:

- Studies the following:
 - Effect of substance abuse on residents living near the border, with emphasis on residents who are at least 14 years of age but younger than 26 years of age
 - Hereditary factors that may contribute to a predisposition to alcohol dependency
 - Contributing factors of binge drinking by both minors and persons of legal drinking age and the effects on health and the community of binge drinking
 - Effect on the community of drug traffickers using young residents living near the border to transport illegal drugs into the United States
- Reports to the governor and the legislature not later than November 1 of each even-numbered year

Composition (27 members total):

- 12 statutory members:
 - 5 members of the house, each of whom represents a district wholly or partly located 25 miles or less from the international border, appointed by the speaker of the house
 - 5 members of the senate, each of whom represents a district wholly or partly located 25 miles or less from the international border, appointed by the lieutenant governor
 - The commissioner of the Department of State Health Services or the commissioner's designee
 - The director of the Department of Public Safety or the director's designee
- 15 members nominated by the task force chair and vice chair and appointed if a majority of the other members of the task force approve their appointment:
 - 3 district attorneys or their representatives from different locations along the international border
 - 3 representatives of the public from different locations along the international border who have significant experience working in substance abuse and intervention programs in a border county
 - 3 representatives employed by a local law enforcement agency that has jurisdiction extending to the international border
 - 3 licensed physicians from different locations along the border
 - 1 member from each of the following organizations: the State Bar of Texas; the Mexican American Bar Association; a nonprofit organization with significant experience in issues prevalent in the border region

In addition, the task force may invite the following to participate as members of the task force in task force activities:

- *Individuals from any state in the United Mexican States that borders Texas who have qualifications similar to those of members of the task force*
- *Federal agencies with jurisdiction over alcohol and illegal drug laws*

Expiration date: January 1, 2009

Border Inspection, Trade, and Transportation Advisory Committee (Office of the Secretary of State)

Legislation: House Bill 925, Section 3; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Identifies problems involved with border truck inspections and related trade and transportation infrastructure and develops recommendations for addressing those problems

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- Texas Department of Transportation
- Department of Public Safety
- Office of State-Federal Relations
- U.S. Department of Transportation
- Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration
- Other state and federal agencies involved in border crossing issues

All members are appointed by the border commerce coordinator in the Office of the Secretary of State.

Expiration date: None

Border Issues, Interagency Work Group on

Legislation: House Bill 925, Section 4; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Functions:

- Develops or updates a process to allow agencies to work together on issues that face border communities
- Discusses and coordinates programs and services offered to border communities and residents of border communities
- Develops regulatory and legislative recommendations to eliminate duplication and combine program services

Composition (17 members total): To include the heads of the following state agencies or their designees:

- Office of Rural Community Affairs

- Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
- Texas Water Development Board
- Texas Department of Transportation
- Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- Texas Workforce Commission
- Department of State Health Services
- Health and Human Services Commission
- General Land Office
- Texas Education Agency
- Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office
- Texas Office of State-Federal Relations
- Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- Office of the Attorney General
- Office of the Secretary of State
- Department of Public Safety
- Railroad Commission of Texas

Expiration date: None

Building Healthy Families, Interagency Coordinating Council for

Legislation: House Bill 1685, Section 1; creation is effective June 17, 2005

Functions:

- Facilitates communication and collaboration among state agencies involved with the prevention of and early intervention in child abuse and neglect
- Submits to the lieutenant governor, speaker of the house, and legislature an inventory of the child abuse and neglect prevention and early intervention policies, programs, and activities of each agency represented on the council
- Reports to the lieutenant governor, speaker of the house, and legislature not later than December 1, 2006, on the council's recommendations for improving the coordination and collaboration of child abuse and neglect prevention and early intervention programs and services among state agencies and the council's recommendation regarding whether to continue the council

Composition (10 members total): To include one representative from each of the following state agencies:

- Department of Family and Protective Services
- Health and Human Services Commission

- Department of State Health Services
- Department of Aging and Disability Services
- Texas Youth Commission
- Texas Education Agency
- Texas Workforce Commission
- Office of the Attorney General
- Texas Juvenile Probation Commission
- Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs

Members are appointed by the executive director or commissioner of the respective agency.

Expiration date: September 1, 2007

Colonia Residents Assistance, Supplemental Advisory Committee on (Office of the Secretary of State)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1202, Section 2; creation is authorized, not mandated, effective June 17, 2005

Function: Supplements the efforts of the Colonia Resident Advisory Committee to improve services delivered to colonia residents

Composition (unspecified number of members): Representatives of colonia residents in counties that are not represented by a member of the Colonia Resident Advisory Committee, appointed by the border initiatives coordinator in the Office of the Secretary of State

Expiration date: None

Community Outreach Committee, Advisory Oversight (Department of Public Safety)

Legislation: House Bill 925, Section 1; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Functions:

- Documents trade-related incidents involving Department of Public Safety (DPS) personnel
- Develops recommendations and strategies to improve community relations, DPS personnel conduct, and the truck inspection process at Texas ports of entry
- Acts as ombudsman between the DPS and border residents and between the DPS and DPS personnel

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- Border crossing bridge owners
- Directors of entities governing ports of entry

- Community leaders
- Planning developers
- Mayors of border municipalities or their designees
- Representatives of law enforcement
- Representatives of the general public

All members are appointed by the Public Safety Commission.

Expiration date: None

Cosmetology, Advisory Board on (Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation)

Legislation: Senate Bill 411, Sections 3.03–3.09; 5.01, 6.01; creation is effective September 1, 2005; the Texas Cosmetology Commission is continued in existence until January 1, 2006, for the sole purpose of transferring obligations, and its regulatory functions are transferred to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Functions:

- Advises the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation and the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation on education and curricula for applicants, the content of examinations, proposed rules and standards on technical issues related to cosmetology, and other issues affecting cosmetology
- Responds to questions from the department and the commission regarding cosmetology

Composition (5 members total):

- 1 member who holds a license for a beauty shop that is part of a chain of beauty shops
- 1 member who holds a license for a beauty shop that is not part of a chain of beauty shops
- 1 member who holds a private beauty culture school license
- 2 members who each hold an operator license
- The associate commissioner for occupational education and technology at the Texas Education Agency or that person's designee (ex officio member without voting privileges)

All members are appointed by the presiding officer of the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation with the commission's approval.

Expiration date: None (removed from the Texas Sunset Act)

Emerging Technology Committee, Texas

Legislation: House Bill 1765, Section 1; creation is effective June 14, 2005

Function: Makes recommendations to the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house for awarding money from the Texas emerging technology fund

Composition (17 members total):

- Industry leaders in Texas
- Nationally recognized researchers from public or private Texas institutions of higher education

All members are appointed by the governor from nominations that may be submitted by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board; a president of a public or private institution of higher education in Texas; the members of the Texas Workforce Commission; a representative of the governor's office involved in economic development activities; a representative of the lieutenant governor's office involved in economic development activities; a representative of the office of the speaker of the house involved in economic development activities; and other persons considered appropriate by the governor.

Expiration date: None

Eminent Domain, Interim Committee on the Power of (Texas Legislature)

Legislation: Senate Bill 7, 2nd C.S., Section 8; creation is effective November 18, 2005

Functions:

- Studies the use of the power of eminent domain, including the use of the power of eminent domain for economic development purposes and the issue of what constitutes adequate compensation for property taken through the use of eminent domain
- Reports to the lieutenant governor and speaker of the house not later than December 1, 2006

Composition (10 members total):

- 5 members of the senate appointed by the lieutenant governor
- 5 members of the house of representatives appointed by the speaker of the house

Expiration date: None stated, but the nature of the charge implies the committee's termination on submission of its report

Entrepreneurship Network, Advisory Board on Operations of the Texas (Texas Entrepreneurship Network)

Legislation: House Bill 1747, Section 1; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Guides and advises the operations of the Texas Entrepreneurship Network (see next entry)

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- 1 representative from each of the founding members of the Texas Entrepreneurship Network
- At least 1 member from the private sector

An organization other than a founding member of the network may have a representative on the board only if an additional seat on the board is authorized by a two-thirds majority vote of the existing board.

Expiration date: None

Entrepreneurship Network, Texas

Legislation: House Bill 1747, Section 1; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Functions:

- Trains and refocuses existing state and local resources to build a more prosperous, dynamic, and sustainable economy throughout Texas by:
 - Providing coordinated training and services that enhance the value of the state's existing infrastructure investments and make the investments available to entrepreneur participants
 - Developing a statewide network of entrepreneurship developers and entrepreneurship centers
 - Developing a comprehensive network of knowledge, leadership, and financial capital resources accessible through the network's entrepreneurship developers and entrepreneurship centers
 - Educating entrepreneur participants and generating awareness of the network and its programs
 - Identifying the most promising ventures through activities, including business-plan competitions, and assisting the ventures' potential for job and wealth creation
 - Developing evaluation methods to measure the effectiveness of the network and the impact of entrepreneurship on local and regional economies
 - Developing best practices for successful entrepreneurship and applied research regarding critical success factors for entrepreneurial businesses
 - Collaborating with existing local, state, and federal agencies and economic development professionals
- Works locally, regionally, and statewide with educators, agencies, organizations, networks, businesses, economic developers, consultants, communities, researchers, or other persons to develop and support strategies to assist entrepreneur participants and improve the environment for entrepreneurial development in Texas

Composition (unspecified number of member entities):

- Founding members of the network:

- Texas Cooperative Extension of The Texas A&M University System
- IC2 Institute at The University of Texas at Austin
- College of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources at Texas Tech University
- Department of Agriculture
- Texas Workforce Commission
- Office of Rural Community Affairs
- Texas Center for Rural Entrepreneurship
- Texas Economic Development Council
- CoSERVE at The University of Texas—Pan American
- Office of external affairs at Texas Southern University
- John F. Baugh Center for Entrepreneurship at Baylor University
- Any institution of higher education, chamber of commerce, economic development corporation, business, or organization with an interest in promoting entrepreneurship may join the network

Expiration date: None

(Facility Residents’ Behavior) Best Practices Work Group (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: Senate Bill 325, Section 8; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Functions: Studies and makes recommendations regarding the following:

- Development of a comprehensive reporting system
- Prevention of the death of or serious injury to facility residents related to physical intervention or restraint
- De-escalation techniques and minimum standards to manage the behavior of facility residents in an emergency situation
- Best practices for physical, behavioral, and de-escalation interventions by employees that include specific holds and techniques for the physical restraint of facility residents
- Best practices related to specific populations, including any consideration that should be given to a facility’s community or institutional setting
- Best practices related to seclusion of facility residents

Composition (unspecified number of members to be determined by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission):

- Representatives of the following agencies:
 - Department of State Health Services

- Department of Aging and Disability Services
- Department of Family and Protective Services
- Texas Youth Commission
- Texas Education Agency
- Texas Juvenile Probation Commission
- A representative of Texas' protection and advocacy system established as required by 42 U.S.C. Section 15043 who is appointed by the administrative head of that system
- Additional members who are recognized experts or who represent the interests of facility residents, including advocates, family members, physicians, representatives of hospitals licensed under Chapter 241 or 577, Health and Safety Code, social workers, and psychiatric nurses

All members are appointed by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission.

Expiration date: None

Farm and Ranch Lands Conservation Council, Texas (General Land Office)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1273, Section 2; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Advises and assists the commissioner of the General Land Office with administration of the Texas farm and ranch lands conservation program and selects grant recipients

Composition (10 members total):

- 6 members appointed by the governor:
 - 1 member who operates a family farm or ranch in Texas
 - 1 member who is the designated representative of an agricultural banking or lending organization and who has significant experience lending for farms and ranches or lands encumbered by conservation easements
 - 2 members who are the designated representatives of a statewide agricultural organization in existence in Texas for at least 10 years
 - 1 member who is a designated representative of a statewide nonprofit organization that represents land trusts operating in Texas
 - 1 member from a state institution of higher education who has significant experience with natural resources issues
- 4 ex officio members:
 - The commissioner of the General Land Office
 - The commissioner of agriculture or the commissioner's designee

- The presiding officer of the Parks and Wildlife Commission or the presiding officer's designee
- The state conservationist of the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service (nonvoting member)

Expiration date: None

Feasibility of Registering Small Facilities, Work Group on the (Department of Aging and Disability Services)

Legislation: House Bill 669, Section 1; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Studies the feasibility of requiring facilities that furnish food, shelter, and personal care services to three or fewer people who are unrelated to the proprietor of the facility to register with the Department of Aging and Disability Services and the best method to identify those facilities

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- Representatives of the Department of Aging and Disability Services
- A representative of the Department of Family and Protective Services
- A representative of a licensed assisted living facility
- A resident of an assisted living facility
- An advocate for persons with disabilities
- An advocate for the elderly
- Representatives of provider associations representing assisted living facilities
- Representatives of local government entities, with at least one representative from a rural area of the state and one representative from an urban area of the state

All members are appointed by the commissioner of aging and disability services.

Expiration date: January 1, 2007

Financial Responsibility Verification Program Working Group

Legislation: Senate Bill 1670, Section 1; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Facilitates implementation of the motor vehicle owner financial responsibility verification program, assists in the development of rules, and coordinates a testing phase and necessary changes identified in the testing phase

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- Representatives of the insurance industry
- Technical experts with the skills and knowledge, including knowledge of privacy laws, required to create and maintain the program
- Representatives of the following implementing agencies:

- Department of Public Safety
- Texas Department of Transportation
- Texas Department of Insurance
- Department of Information Resources

Expiration date: None

First Responder Advisory Council (Office of the Governor)

Legislation: Senate Bill 9, Section 11; creation is effective June 18, 2005

Functions:

- Advises the governor or the governor's designee on homeland security issues relevant to first responders, radio interoperability, the integration of statewide exercises for hazards, and the related use of available funding
- Also advises the governor on:
 - The development and coordination of a statewide critical infrastructure protection strategy
 - The implementation of the governor's homeland security strategy by state and local agencies and specific suggestions for helping those agencies implement the strategy
 - Specific priorities related to the governor's homeland security strategy that the council determines to be of significant importance to the statewide security of critical infrastructure
 - Other matters related to the planning, development, coordination, and implementation of initiatives to promote the governor's homeland security strategy

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- 1 representative for each of the following sectors of the state:
 - Law enforcement
 - Firefighters
 - Private first responders
 - Emergency medical services
- Other members as determined by the governor or the governor's designee

All members are appointed by the governor or the governor's designee.

Expiration date: None

Food and Fibers Research Council (Texas Department of Agriculture) **Abolished Entity: Texas Food and Fibers Commission**

Legislation: House Bill 373; functions are reassigned to the Food and Fibers Research Council effective May 30, 2005; the Texas Food and Fibers Commission is abolished January 1, 2006

Function: Administers the Texas Department of Agriculture's food and fibers research grant program, the purpose of which is to identify and obtain funding from public and private entities for the support of applied research related to fibers and oilseeds

Composition (13 members total):

- The commissioner of agriculture or the commissioner's designee
- 2 representatives of the Texas Cotton Producers Association
- A representative of the Texas Cotton Association
- A representative of the Texas Cotton Ginners Association
- A representative of the Texas Independent Ginners Association
- A representative of the Texas Agriculture Cooperative Council
- A representative of the Mohair Council of America
- A representative of the Texas Sheep and Goat Raisers Association
- A Texas representative of the National Cottonseed Products Association
- A Texas representative of the Southwest Peanut Growers Association
- A representative of the textile or fashion industry
- A representative of the food processing industry

All members are appointed by the commissioner of agriculture.

Expiration date: None

Forensic Science Commission, Texas

Legislation: House Bill 1068, Section 1; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Functions:

- Develops and implements a reporting system through which accredited laboratories, facilities, or entities report professional negligence or misconduct
- Requires all laboratories, facilities, or entities that conduct forensic analyses to report professional negligence or misconduct to the commission
- Investigates in a timely manner any allegation of professional negligence or misconduct that would substantially affect the integrity of the results of a forensic analysis conducted by an accredited laboratory, facility, or entity

Composition (9 members total):

- 4 members appointed by the governor:
 - 2 members with expertise in the field of forensic science
 - 1 prosecuting attorney selected from a list of 10 names submitted to the governor by the Texas District and County Attorneys Association
 - 1 defense attorney selected from a list of 10 names submitted to the governor by the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association
- 3 members appointed by the lieutenant governor:
 - 1 faculty or staff member of The University of Texas who specializes in clinical laboratory medicine selected from a list of 10 names submitted to the lieutenant governor by the chancellor of The University of Texas System
 - 1 faculty or staff member of Texas A&M University who specializes in clinical laboratory medicine selected from a list of 10 names submitted to the lieutenant governor by the chancellor of The Texas A&M University System
 - 1 faculty or staff member of Texas Southern University who has expertise in pharmaceutical laboratory research selected from a list of 10 names submitted to the lieutenant governor by the chancellor of Texas Southern University
- 2 members appointed by the attorney general:
 - 1 director or division head of the University of North Texas Health Science Center at Fort Worth Missing Persons DNA Database
 - 1 faculty or staff member of the Sam Houston State University College of Criminal Justice with expertise in the field of forensic science or statistical analyses selected from a list of 10 names submitted to the lieutenant governor by the chancellor of the Texas State University System

Expiration date: None

Guardianship Certification Board (Office of Court Administration)

Legislation: Senate Bill 6, Section 3.24; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Functions:

- Administers and enforces laws relating to the board; administratively attached to the Office of Court Administration
- Develops and recommends proposed rules and procedures to the supreme court
- Sets the amount of related fees, subject to the approval of the supreme court
- Establishes the qualifications for obtaining certification or recertification
- Issues certificates to individuals who meet the certification requirements
- Performs any other duty required by law

Composition (15 members total):

- 11 members with demonstrated experience working with one of the following:
 - A guardianship program
 - An organization that advocates on behalf of or in the interest of elderly individuals
 - An organization that advocates on behalf of or in the interest of individuals with mental illness or mental retardation or individuals with physical disabilities
 - Incapacitated individuals
- 4 public members, appointed from a list of nominees submitted by the governor, who are:
 - Caretakers of individuals with mental illness or mental retardation or individuals with physical disabilities
 - Persons who advocate on behalf of or in the interest of individuals with mental illness or mental retardation or individuals with physical disabilities

All members are appointed by the supreme court.

Expiration date: September 1, 2015, unless continued by the legislature under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act)

Gulf Shrimp in Texas, Advisory Committee on Issues Relating to (Parks and Wildlife Department)

Legislation: Senate Bill 454, Section 3; creation is effective May 20, 2005

Functions:

- Addresses issues relating to gulf shrimp in Texas
- Receives a report, required by January 1, 2010, from the Parks and Wildlife Department on the gulf shrimp license moratorium program

Composition: To be established by the presiding officer of the Parks and Wildlife Commission

Expiration date: June 1, 2010

Gulf Shrimp License Moratorium Review Board (Parks and Wildlife Department)

Legislation: Senate Bill 454, Section 3; creation is effective May 20, 2005

Function: Advises the Parks and Wildlife Commission and the Parks and Wildlife Department and makes recommendations concerning the administrative aspects of the gulf shrimp license moratorium program, including hardship and appeal cases concerning eligibility

Composition (9 members total):

- 2 members representing Chambers, Harris, Jefferson, and Orange Counties

- 1 member representing Galveston County
- 2 members representing Brazoria and Matagorda Counties
- 2 members representing Aransas, Calhoun, Nueces, Refugio, and San Patricio Counties
- 2 members representing Cameron, Kleberg, and Willacy Counties

Members are elected by the holders of commercial gulf shrimp boat licenses to reflect the above geographical distribution according to the county of residence specified on each member's commercial gulf shrimp boat license.

Expiration date: June 1, 2010, but the executive director of the Parks and Wildlife Department is required to solicit and consider recommendations from commercial gulf shrimp boat license holders regarding the continued need for the board

Health Care Associated Infections, Advisory Panel on (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: Senate Bill 872, Section 3; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Studies and recommends definitions and methodologies for collecting and reporting evidence-based data on infection rates and process measures

Composition (14 members total):

- 2 infection control practitioner members who are certified by the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology and are practicing in Texas hospitals, at least one of which must be a rural hospital
- 2 infection control practitioner members who are certified by the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology and are nurses licensed to engage in professional nursing under Chapter 301, Occupations Code
- 3 board-certified or board-eligible physician members who are licensed to practice medicine in Texas under Chapter 155, Occupations Code, at least two of whom have active medical staff privileges at a Texas hospital and are active members of the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America and have demonstrated expertise in infection control in health care facilities
- 1 member who is a chief executive officer of a hospital licensed under Chapter 241, Health and Safety Code
- 1 member who is a chief executive officer of an ambulatory surgical center licensed under Chapter 243, Health and Safety Code
- 3 members who are Department of State Health Services employees representing the department in epidemiology and the licensing of hospitals or ambulatory surgical centers and serve as nonvoting members of the advisory panel
- 2 members who represent the public as consumers

All members are appointed by the commissioner of state health services.

Expiration date: January 1, 2007

Health Care Information Technology Advisory Committee (Statewide Health Coordinating Council)

Legislation: Senate Bill 45, Section 1; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Functions:

- Develops a long-range plan for health care information technology, including:
 - The use of electronic medical records
 - Computerized clinical support systems
 - Computerized physician order entry
 - Regional data sharing interchanges for health care information
 - Other methods of incorporating information technology in pursuit of greater cost-effectiveness and better patient outcomes in health care
- In developing the long-range plan, studies the effect of health care information technology on price disparities in insurance coverage for Texas residents

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- Representatives of interested groups, including the academic community, health plans, pharmacies, and associations of physicians, hospitals, and nurses
- At least one member with at least 10 years of experience in the health care information technology industry

All members are appointed by the Statewide Health Coordinating Council.

Expiration date: None

Health Care Policy Council, Texas (Office of the Governor)

Legislation: House Bill 916, Section 1; creation is effective June 18, 2005

Functions:

- Identifies gaps, flaws, inefficiencies, or problems in the health care system that create systemic or substantial negative impacts on the participants in the health care system, studies those problems, and identifies possible solutions for the state or other participants in the system
- Studies health care issues, such as the cost of health care and access to health care, that are referred by the governor or are submitted by the speaker and lieutenant governor to the governor for referral to the council by the governor
- Ensures the most effective collaboration among state agencies in the purchase of health care products or services
- Facilitates and promotes the use of technology in the health care system
- Monitors, researches, and promotes initiatives relating to patient safety and the use of telemedicine and telehealth

- Establishes a clearinghouse of information to assist communities in assessing the needs of local health care systems, including information on innovative health care service delivery models, grants and technical assistance in the application process, and the development and testing of quality measures, and investigates the best ways to collect, compare, and communicate the information to local communities

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- Administrative heads of the following state agencies or their designees:
 - Health and Human Services Commission
 - Department of State Health Services
 - Department of Aging and Disability Services
 - Texas Workforce Commission
 - Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
 - Texas Department of Insurance
 - Employees Retirement System of Texas
 - Teacher Retirement System of Texas
- Each health care related licensing agency identified by the governor
- Any other state agency or system of higher education identified by the governor that purchases or provides health care services

Expiration date: None

Health Coverage Public Awareness and Education Program, Task Force on (Texas Department of Insurance)

Legislation: Senate Bill 261, Section 1; creation is effective June 17, 2005

Function: Makes recommendations regarding the health coverage public awareness and education program

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- A representative from each of the following groups or entities:
 - Health benefit coverage consumers
 - Small employers
 - Employers generally
 - Insurance agents
 - Office of public insurance counsel
 - Texas Health Insurance Risk Pool
 - Physicians

- Advanced practice nurses
- Hospital trade associations
- Medical units of institutions of higher education
- A representative of the Health and Human Services Commission responsible for programs under Medicaid and the children's health insurance program
- Representative(s) of health benefit plan issuers

All members are appointed by the commissioner of insurance.

Expiration date: None

Health Insurance Risk Pool Deficit, Joint Interim Committee on the (Texas Legislature)

Legislation: Senate Bill 809, Section 10; creation is effective January 1, 2006

Functions:

- Studies the deficit resulting from net losses of the Texas Health Insurance Risk Pool and recommends a method or formula for recouping any deficit that apportions the cost of those losses among the largest possible number of users of the health care system
- Reports to the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house by September 1, 2006

Composition: To be determined by the lieutenant governor and speaker of the house

Expiration date: September 1, 2007

Health Workforce Planning Partnership, Texas (Texas Health Care Policy Council, Office of the Governor)

Legislation: House Bill 916, Section 1; creation is effective June 18, 2005

Functions:

- Monitors the health care workforce needs of the state, including the number and type of health care workers in the state by region, and monitors the quality of care provided by the health care workforce
- Undertakes and implements appropriate health care workforce planning activities
- Researches and identifies ways to increase funding for health care, including obtaining money from federal, state, private, or public sources
- Assists the Texas Health Care Policy Council (see above; also created by House Bill 916) in developing recommendations

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- Members of the Texas Health Care Policy Council (see above; also created by House Bill 916) representing the following agencies:

- Health and Human Services Commission
- Department of State Health Services
- Texas Workforce Commission
- Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- Any other state agency or system of higher education identified by the governor that impacts health care workforce planning
- The administrative head of the Health Professions Council or the head's designee
- The administrative head of the Office of Rural Community Health Affairs or that person's designee

Expiration date: None

Heirloom Birth Certificate, Advisory Committee on Designing an (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: House Bill 2101, Section 2; creation is authorized, not mandated, effective September 1, 2005

Function: Assists the Department of State Health Services in soliciting donated designs and selecting the best designs for an heirloom birth certificate

Composition: To be determined by the Department of State Health Services

Expiration date: None

Heirloom Wedding Anniversary Certificate, Advisory Committee on Designing an (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: House Bill 2100, Section 2; creation is authorized, not mandated, effective September 1, 2005

Function: Assists the Department of State Health Services in soliciting donated designs and selecting the best designs for an heirloom wedding anniversary certificate

Composition: To be determined by the Department of State Health Services

Expiration date: None

Indigent Health Care Advisory Committee (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: Senate Bill 44, Section 1; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Functions:

- Advises the Health and Human Services Commission on rules and policies concerning indigent health care services

- Conducts a feasibility study and develops recommendations regarding the implementation of a pilot program for the regionalization of county indigent health care services and assistance and hospital district services and assistance
- Reviews and proposes recommendations for legislation updating indigent health care and treatment under Chapter 61, Health and Safety Code, including:
 - the health care services provided under Subchapter B
 - the differences in eligibility requirements for and health care services provided by a county under Subchapter B, a public hospital under Subchapter C, and a hospital district under Subchapter C
 - the allocation method used for distributing state assistance funds
 - county reporting requirements and enforcement by the Department of State Health Services
- Identifies other areas or subjects related to indigent health care that the advisory committee could review or study

Composition (11 members total):

- 4 consumers or persons representing consumers
- 7 other members

All members are appointed by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission.

Expiration date: September 1, 2007

Injured Employee Counsel, Office of (Texas Department of Insurance)

Legislation: House Bill 7, Section 3.016; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Functions:

- Provides assistance to workers' compensation claimants
- Advocates on behalf of injured employees as a class regarding rulemaking
- Assists injured employees with contacting appropriate licensing boards for complaints against a health care provider
- Assists injured employees with referral to local, state, and federal financial assistance, rehabilitation, and work placement programs, as well as other social services that the office considers appropriate

Composition: The injured employee public counsel is appointed by the governor

The office is administratively attached to, but independent of, the Texas Department of Insurance.

Expiration date: September 1, 2009, unless continued by the legislature under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act)

(Medicaid Long-Term Care) Fee Schedule Work Group (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1188, Section 5; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Assists the Health and Human Services Commission in developing a required fee schedule for reimbursable incurred medical expenses for dental services controlled in long-term care facilities

Composition (unspecified number of members): Consists of providers of long-term care services, including dentists and long-term care advocates

All members are appointed by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission and the commissioner of aging and disability services.

Expiration date: None

Medical Peer Review, Joint Interim Committee on (Texas Legislature)

Legislation: Senate Bill 419, Section 1.52; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Functions:

- Studies the medical peer review process in hospitals and other health care entities in Texas, to include the following:
 - The use of medical peer review in identifying and reporting to the Texas Medical Board (previously known as the Texas State Board of Medical Examiners) the conduct of or the quality of care provided by physicians who are members of the medical staffs of hospitals and other health care entities
 - The use of medical peer review in disciplining a physician based on the conduct or quality of care provided by the physician as a member of the medical staff of a hospital or other health care entity
 - The appropriate level of immunity protections for hospitals and other health care entities, medical peer review committees, and individuals who participate on those committees in health care liability claims brought by patients alleging bad faith physician credentialing
 - Whether there are adequate mechanisms in state law to ensure appropriate regulatory supervision of the appropriateness and effectiveness of medical peer review in hospitals and other health care entities
- Investigates the following:
 - The adequacy of the Texas Medical Board's oversight and investigation of physician claims that the medical peer review process is misused, including whether the board's oversight and investigation powers should be strengthened and how other states investigate claims of misuse of the medical peer review process
 - The state regulatory reporting mechanisms relating to the appropriateness and effectiveness of medical peer review in hospitals and other health care entities and the oversight and authority of the state to ensure good faith medical peer review in hospitals and other health care entities in Texas

- The potentially negative impact on medical peer review in Texas that could result from potential changes to immunity protections or the oversight and investigation of physician claims of misuse of the medical peer review process
 - How the laws of other states address immunity protections for medical peer review
 - Any other matter relevant to the medical peer review process, including how state and federal law identifies physician conduct that is considered to be unprofessional or unsafe by a medical peer review committee
- Reports to the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house not later than January 1, 2007

Composition: To be determined by the presiding officer of each house of the legislature

Expiration date: September 1, 2007

Nursing Faculty Enhancement, Advisory Committee on (Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

Legislation: Senate Bill 132, Section 4; creation is authorized, not mandated, effective June 17, 2005

Function: Advises the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board on successful strategies for educating, recruiting, and retaining qualified professional nursing program faculty members who hold master's or doctoral degrees

Composition: To be determined by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Expiration date: None

Oral Examination Evaluation Work Group (Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

Legislation: House Bill 1015, Section 16; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Functions:

- Reviews audiotapes of passed and failed oral examinations
- Reviews analyses of the performance of persons who failed the examination
- Assesses scoring criteria and clinical scenarios used in the administration of the examination
- Recommends improvements to standardize the administration of the examination
- Conducts other appropriate tasks

Composition (unspecified number of members): Consists of persons interested in or affected by the regulation of the practice of psychology, including faculty members of college or university psychology departments and licensees with varying levels of experience

All members are appointed by the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists.

Expiration date: None

Organ, Tissue, and Eye Donor Council, Texas (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: House Bill 120, Section 5; creation is effective June 18, 2005

Functions:

- Advises the Department of State Health Services (department) concerning the Donor Education, Awareness, and Registry Program of Texas
- Advises the department on priorities for the initiatives to be implemented under the program
- Advises the department regarding donor education, awareness, and registry outreach specifically targeted at African American and Hispanic populations
- Advises the commissioner of state health services, public safety director, and director of the Texas Department of Transportation on the allocation of money received by the comptroller for the activities authorized under the Donor Education, Awareness, and Registry Program of Texas
- Advises the department, Department of Public Safety, and the Texas Department of Transportation regarding necessary performance standards and quality control measures concerning the operation of the statewide Internet-based donor registry, as well as donor educational programs
- Reports to the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house before December 1 of each even-numbered year

Composition (10 members total):

- 1 representative of the Department of State Health Services appointed by the commissioner of state health services
- 1 representative of the Department of Public Safety appointed by the public safety director
- 1 representative of the Texas Department of Transportation appointed by the executive director of that agency
- The following members appointed by the commissioner of state health services:
 - 1 representative from each of the state's three federally qualified organ procurement organizations, nominated by that organization
 - 1 transplant physician or nurse licensed in Texas
 - 1 representative of an acute care hospital in Texas
 - 2 public members who are donors, recipients, or members of a donor's family and are selected from a pool of members compiled from the recommendations of certain specified nonprofit organizations in the field of transplantation and organ donor education

Expiration date: September 1, 2017, or an earlier date if the council and the Department of State Health Services mutually determine that the public interest is best served by abolition of the council

Oyster License Moratorium Review Board (Parks and Wildlife Department)

Legislation: Senate Bill 272, Section 1; creation is effective May 20, 2005

Function: Advises the Parks and Wildlife Commission and the Parks and Wildlife Department and makes recommendations concerning the administrative aspects of the oyster license moratorium program, including hardship and appeal cases concerning eligibility

Composition (7 members total):

- 1 member representing Chambers, Harris, Jefferson, and Orange Counties
- 2 members representing Galveston County
- 1 member representing Brazoria and Matagorda Counties
- 2 members representing Aransas, Calhoun, Nueces, Refugio, and San Patricio Counties
- 1 member representing Cameron, Kleberg, and Willacy Counties

Members are elected by the holders of commercial oyster boat licenses to reflect the above geographical distribution according to the county of residence specified on the member's commercial oyster boat license.

Expiration date: September 1, 2010, but the executive director of the Parks and Wildlife Department is required to solicit and consider recommendations from commercial oyster boat license holders regarding the continued need for the board

Oysters in Texas, Advisory Committee on Issues Relating to (Parks and Wildlife Department)

Legislation: Senate Bill 272, Section 1; creation is effective May 20, 2005

Functions:

- Addresses issues relating to oysters in Texas
- Receives a report, required by January 1, 2010, from the Parks and Wildlife Department on the oyster license moratorium program

Composition: To be determined by the presiding officer of the Parks and Wildlife Commission

Expiration date: September 1, 2010

Parental Advisory Committee (Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: Senate Bill 6, Section 1.89; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Functions: Advises the Department of Family and Protective Services on policies affecting parents and their involvement with the department, including:

- Investigations of allegations of abuse or neglect
- Designations of alternative placements for children
- Standards for persons who investigate reports of abuse or neglect on the state or local level

Composition: To be determined by the governor

Expiration date: None

Perfusionist Advisory Committee, Texas State (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: Senate Bill 403; creation is effective September 1, 2005; the Texas State Board of Examiners of Perfusionists is abolished

Function: Advises the Department of State Health Services on issues relating to the regulation of perfusionists

Composition (5 members total):

- 2 licensed perfusionists who have been licensed for at least three years
- 1 physician licensed by the Texas Medical Board who is certified by that board in cardiovascular surgery
- 2 members who represent the public

All members are appointed by the commissioner of state health services.

Expiration date: September 1, 2017, unless continued by the legislature under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act)

Private Sector Advisory Council (Office of the Governor)

Legislation: Senate Bill 9, Section 11; creation is effective June 18, 2005

Functions:

- Advises the governor or the governor's designee on homeland security issues relevant to the private sector
- Also advises the governor on:
 - The development and coordination of a statewide critical infrastructure protection strategy
 - The implementation of the governor's homeland security strategy by state and local agencies and specific suggestions for helping those agencies to implement the strategy
 - Specific priorities related to the governor's homeland security strategy that the council determines to be of significant importance to the statewide security of critical infrastructure

- Other matters related to the planning, development, coordination, and implementation of initiatives to promote the governor’s homeland security strategy

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- One representative of a private organization or entity for each of the following sectors:
 - Agriculture and food
 - Banking and finance
 - Chemicals and hazardous materials
 - The defense industry
 - Energy
 - Emergency services
 - Information technology
 - Telecommunications
 - Postal and shipping
 - Public health
 - Transportation
 - Ports and waterways
 - National monuments and icons
 - Other members as determined by the governor or the governor’s designee
- All members are appointed by the governor or the governor’s designee.*

Expiration date: None

Rainwater Harvesting Evaluation Committee (Texas Water Development Board)

Legislation: House Bill 2430, Sections 1 and 4; creation is effective June 17, 2005

Functions:

- Studies the feasibility of using rainwater as a source of water supply and evaluates the potential for rainwater harvesting in Texas
- Recommends:
 - Minimum water quality guidelines and standards for potable and nonpotable indoor uses of rainwater
 - Treatment methods for potable and nonpotable indoor uses of rainwater
 - Ways, such as dual plumbing systems, to use rainwater harvesting systems in conjunction with existing municipal water systems for residential, industrial, community, or public water supplies

- Ways that the state can further promote rainwater harvesting
- Reports to the lieutenant governor and speaker of the house not later than December 1, 2006

Composition (4 members total):

- A representative of the Texas Water Development Board, appointed by the board
- A representative of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, appointed by the commission
- A representative of the Department of State Health Services, appointed by the commissioner of state health services
- A representative of the Texas section of the American Water Works Association's Conservation and Reuse Division, appointed by the governing body of that section

Expiration date: January 1, 2007

Residential Foreclosures, Advisory Committee on (Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs)

Legislation: House Bill 1582, Section 1; creation is effective June 18, 2005

Functions:

- Addresses, with respect to the study by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs of mortgage foreclosure rates in Bexar, Cameron, Dallas, El Paso, Harris, and Travis Counties, the following topics:
 - Extent to which the terms of mortgages are related to the foreclosure rate and whether the terms could be offered in a manner to reduce the likelihood of foreclosures
 - Socioeconomic and geographic elements characterizing foreclosures
 - Securitization of mortgages in the secondary market and its effect on foreclosures
 - Consumer education efforts to prevent foreclosures
 - Recommendations to reduce foreclosures and the foreclosure rate across Texas
- Determines the methodology to be used in conducting the study

Composition (11 members total):

- The executive director of the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs (TDHCA) or the director's representative
- The savings and loan commissioner or the commissioner's representative
- 4 members appointed by the executive director of TDHCA who represent community and consumer interests
- 4 members appointed by the savings and loan commissioner who represent the mortgage lending industry

- 1 representative of the Texas Housing Research Consortium at The University of Texas at Austin

Expiration date: February 1, 2007

Rule Concerning Content of Individualized Education Program for Student with Pervasive Developmental Disorder, Study Committee on the (Texas Education Agency)

Legislation: Senate Bill 882, Section 13; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Functions:

- Studies the rule (19 T.A.C. Section 89.1055(e)) concerning the content of an individualized education program for a student with autism or another pervasive developmental disorder
- Considers whether any other considerations, such as applied behavior analysis, communication training, or the use of inclusive settings, should be included in the rule
- Reports to the commissioner of education not later than July 1, 2006, on any necessary changes to the rule

Composition (unspecified number of members determined by the Texas Education Agency): Includes parents of students with autism or other pervasive developmental disorders, teachers, school administrators, and other interested persons

School district employees or educational consultants or contractors who receive or are employed by entities that receive compensation from a school district may not constitute more than 50 percent of the committee.

Expiration date: August 1, 2006

School Health Advisory Committee (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: Senate Bill 42, Section 9; creation is effective June 17, 2005

Function: Provides assistance to the State Health Services Council in establishing a leadership role for the Department of State Health Services in support for and delivery of coordinated school health programs and school health services

Composition (unspecified number of members established by the Health and Human Services Commission at the Department of State Health Services): To include at least:

- 1 representative from the Department of Agriculture, appointed by the commissioner of agriculture
- 1 representative from the Texas Education Agency, appointed by the commissioner of education

Expiration date: None

Self-Insurance Group Guaranty Fund Board, Texas

Legislation: House Bill 1353, Section 1; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Functions:

- Creates and maintains a trust fund for payment of the workers' compensation liabilities of a group that is certified to self-insure for workers' compensation insurance coverage but that has been declared insolvent
- Provides recommendations to the commissioner of insurance regarding rules or guidelines applicable to groups
- Receives reports from the Texas Department of Insurance on the financial condition of groups, including examination and audit reports
- Engages consulting experts as necessary to review information provided by or filed with the department to ensure financial solvency of groups
- Provides advisory recommendations to the commissioner of insurance as necessary regarding an applicant's compliance with requirements relating to application requirements for certification
- Takes action, in response to a finding by the commissioner of insurance that a group is insolvent, to use the trust fund's resources to ensure the payment of the group's valid workers' compensation claims and related administrative expenses

Composition (6 members total):

- 3 members approved by the commissioner of insurance and elected by representatives of each group certified to self-insure for workers' compensation insurance coverage, each of whom represents a different group certified under the law
- 1 member to represent wage earners designated by the Division of Workers' Compensation at the Texas Department of Insurance
- 1 member designated by the commissioner of insurance
- The public counsel of the office of public insurance counsel

Expiration date: None

Statewide Integrated Care Management Advisory Committee (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation:

- House Bill 1771, Section 1; creation is authorized, not mandated, effective June 18, 2005
- Senate Bill 1188, Section 20; creation is authorized, not mandated, effective September 1, 2005

Function: Assists the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission in the development and implementation of the integrated care management model of Medicaid managed care

Composition: To be determined by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission

Expiration date: None

Stroke Committee (Advisory Council on Emergency Medical Services, Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: Senate Bill 330, Section 3; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Assists the Advisory Council on Emergency Medical Services, in collaboration with the Texas Council on Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke, in developing a statewide stroke emergency transport plan and stroke facility criteria incorporating specified plan contents

Composition (7 members total):

- A licensed physician appointed from a list of physicians eligible for accreditation in vascular neurology from the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education, recommended by a statewide organization of neurologists
- A licensed interventional neuroradiologist appointed from a list of neuroradiologists recommended by a statewide organization of radiologists
- A neurosurgeon with stroke expertise
- A member of the Texas Council on Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke who has expertise in stroke care
- A licensed physician appointed from a list of physicians recommended by a statewide organization of emergency physicians
- A neuroscience registered nurse with stroke expertise
- A volunteer member of a nonprofit organization specializing in stroke treatment, prevention, and education

All members are appointed by the Advisory Council on Emergency Medical Services.

Expiration date: None

Telecommunications Competitiveness Legislative Oversight Committee (Texas Legislature)

Legislation: Senate Bill 5, 2nd C.S., Sections 26 and 27; creation is effective September 7, 2005

Functions:

- Conducts joint public hearings with the Public Utility Commission of Texas at least annually regarding the introduction of full competition to telecommunications services in Texas
- Monitors the effectiveness of telecommunications deregulation, including the fairness of rates, the quality of service, and the effect of regulation on the normal forces of competition

- Submits a report to the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house not later than November 15 of each even-numbered year to include an analysis of any problems caused by telecommunications deregulation and recommendations for any legislative action necessary to address those problems and to further competition within the telecommunications industry
- Conducts a joint interim study with the Public Utility Commission of Texas regarding alternative sources of compensation for municipalities to replace monies currently collected from providers of data, telecommunication, cable, and video services; right-of-way access and fees; and the transition from local franchise authority to state-issued franchise authority
- Reports findings to the lieutenant governor and speaker of the house not later than December 31, 2006

Composition (9 members total):

- The chair of the Senate Committee on Business and Commerce
- The chair of the House Committee on Regulated Industries
- 3 members of the senate appointed by the lieutenant governor
- 3 members of the house appointed by the speaker of the house
- The chief executive of the Office of Public Utility Counsel

Expiration date: None stated, but the joint interim study requirement expires January 1, 2007

Texas-Mexico Strategic Investment Commission

Legislation: House Bill 925, Section 2; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Functions:

- Represents government agencies within the Texas-Mexico border region to help reduce regulations by improving communication and cooperation between federal, state, and local governments
- Examines trade issues between the United States and Mexico
- Studies the flow of commerce at ports of entry between Texas and Mexico, including the movement of commercial vehicles across the border, and establishes a plan to aid that commerce and improve the movement of those vehicles
- Works with federal officials to resolve transportation issues involving infrastructure, including roads and bridges, to allow for the efficient movement of goods and people across the border between Texas and Mexico
- Works with federal officials to create a unified federal agency process to streamline border crossing needs
- Identifies problems involved with border truck inspections and related trade and transportation infrastructure

- Works to increase funding for the North American Development Bank to assist in the financing of water and wastewater facilities
- Explores the sale of excess electric power from Texas to Mexico
- Identifies areas of environmental protection that need to be addressed cooperatively between Texas and the Mexican states
- Identifies common challenges to health care on which all states can collaborate
- Develops recommendations, when possible, for addressing border challenges

Composition (6 members total):

- The border commerce coordinator in the Office of the Secretary of State, or a designee
- The executive director of the Texas Department of Transportation or a designee
- The executive administrator of the Texas Water Development Board or a designee
- The commissioner of state health services or a designee
- The chair of the Railroad Commission of Texas or a designee
- The executive director of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality or a designee

Expiration date: None

Transportation Financing, Study Commission on

Legislation: Senate Bill 1713, Section 1; creation is effective June 17, 2005

Functions:

- Conducts public hearings and studies public policy implications relating to the financing of transportation projects, including:
 - A review of the state motor fuels tax, including its efficacy in funding the transportation needs of Texas and an evaluation of the expenditure of funds from the state highway fund
 - A review of the current sources for funding rail transportation projects, including the options for rail funding and other possible sources of funding
 - A review of all other financing options for all modes of transportation, including but not limited to motor vehicle user fees and fines, bonding, and other debt financing methods
- Issues a report not later than December 1, 2006, summarizing hearings, findings, and recommendations

Composition (9 members total):

- 3 members of the general public appointed by the governor

- 3 members appointed by the lieutenant governor, of which one is a member of the general public and two are members of the senate
- 3 members appointed by the speaker of the house, of which one is a member of the general public and two are members of the house

Expiration date: None stated, but the nature of the charge implies the committee's termination on submission of its report

Veterans Employment Program Transition Team

Legislation: House Bill 2604, Section 5; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Transfers the veterans employment programs from the Texas Workforce Commission to the Texas Veterans Commission

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- A commissioner and an employee of each agency
- Representatives from other agencies that the veterans commission and workforce commission determine are necessary to accomplish the transition

All members are appointed by the Texas Veterans Commission and the Texas Workforce Commission.

Expiration date: None stated, but the nature of the charge implies the team's expiration upon completion of the transition of the veterans employment programs

Wine Industry Development Advisory Committee (Department of Agriculture)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1137, Section 2; creation is authorized, not mandated, effective June 17, 2005

Function: Develops a long-term vision and marketable identity for the Texas wine industry that take into consideration future industry development, funding, research, educational programming, risk management, and marketing

Composition: To be determined by the commissioner of agriculture

Expiration date: None

(Youth Camp) Training Advisory Committee (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: Senate Bill 990, Section 1; creation is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Advises the Department of State Health Services and the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission in the development of criteria and guidelines for the training and examination program on sexual abuse and child molestation for certain persons who work at youth camps

Composition (not more than 9 members total):

- At least 2 members who represent the general public
- Other members, who include experienced camping professionals representing Texas camping communities, representatives of youth camps selected by the Department of State Health Services, and representatives of the Council on Sex Offender Treatment

All members are selected by the commissioner of state health services.

Expiration date: None

Renamed Entities

Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorders, Texas Council on

Previous Name: Interagency Council on Autism and Pervasive Developmental Disorders

Legislation: Senate Bill 882, Sections 1–11; the name change is effective September 1, 2005

Functions (unchanged except to emphasize input from people with autism and other pervasive developmental disorders, their families, and related advocacy organizations, and to add an annual report requirement):

- Provides recommendations to the Health and Human Services Commission and other appropriate state agencies responsible for implementing Chapter 114, Human Resources Code, including recommendations relating to the use of funds appropriated to the commission or another health and human services agency to provide services to persons with autism or other pervasive developmental disorders
- Addresses, with the advice of the advisory task force established in Section 114.005, Human Resources Code, and input from people with autism and other pervasive developmental disorders, their families, and related advocacy organizations, contemporary issues affecting services available to persons with autism or other pervasive developmental disorders in Texas, including:
 - Successful intervention and treatment strategies, including transitioning
 - Personnel preparation and continuing education
 - Referral, screening, and evaluation services
 - Day-care, respite care, or residential care services
 - Vocational and adult training programs
 - Public awareness strategies
 - Contemporary research
 - Early identification strategies
 - Family counseling and case management
 - Recommendations for monitoring autism service programs
- Advises the legislature, with the advice of the advisory task force and input from people with autism and other pervasive developmental disorders, their families, and related advocacy organizations, on legislation that is needed to develop further and to maintain a statewide system of quality intervention and treatment services for all persons with autism or other pervasive developmental disorders
- Identifies and monitors apparent gaps in services currently available from various state agencies for persons with autism or other pervasive developmental disorders and advocates improvements on behalf of those persons

- Reports to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house, and executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission not later than November 1 of each year on recommendations to provide additional or improved services to persons with autism or other pervasive developmental disorders
- Develops a strategy for establishing new programs to meet the requirements identified through its review and assessment and from input from the advisory task force, people with autism and related pervasive developmental disorders, their families, and related advocacy organizations

Composition (13 members total—unchanged except to reflect the reorganization of health and human services agencies):

- 7 public members, the majority of whom are family members of a person with autism or a pervasive developmental disorder, appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate
- 6 ex officio members representing the following agencies:
 - Department of Aging and Disability Services
 - Department of State Health Services
 - Health and Human Services Commission
 - Texas Education Agency
 - Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services
 - Department of Family and Protective Services

Expiration date (unchanged): None

Homeland Security Council

Previous Name: Critical Infrastructure Protection Council

Legislation: Senate Bill 9, Section 10; the name change is effective June 18, 2005

Functions (unchanged):

- Advises the governor on:
 - The development and coordination of a statewide critical infrastructure protection strategy
 - The implementation of the governor’s homeland security strategy by state and local agencies and provides specific suggestions for helping those agencies implement the strategy
 - Other matters related to the planning, development, coordination, and implementation of initiatives to promote the governor’s homeland security strategy

Composition (28 members total—keeps the previous membership and adds 14 new members):

- Previous:
 - Governor or the governor's designee
 - 1 representative of each of the following entities: Department of Agriculture; office of the attorney general; General Land Office; Public Utility Commission of Texas; Department of State Health Services; Department of Information Resources; Department of Public Safety; division of emergency management of the office of the governor; adjutant general's department; Texas Commission on Environmental Quality; Railroad Commission of Texas; Texas Strategic Military Planning Commission; Texas Department of Transportation
- New:
 - 1 representative of each of the following entities: Commission on State Emergency Communications; Office of State-Federal Relations; secretary of state; Senate Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security; House Committee on Defense Affairs and State-Federal Relations; Texas Animal Health Commission; Texas Association of Regional Councils; Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education; state fire marshal's office; Texas Education Agency; Texas Commission on Fire Protection; Parks and Wildlife Department; Texas Forest Service; Texas Water Development Board

The member representing each entity is appointed by the single statewide elected or appointed governing officer, administrative head, or chair of the entity.

Expiration date (unchanged): None

Medical Board, Texas

Previous Name: Texas State Board of Medical Examiners

Legislation: Senate Bill 419, Article 1; the name change is effective September 1, 2005

Function (unchanged): Regulates physicians, physician assistants, surgical assistants, and acupuncturists with the assistance of the Texas Physician Assistant Board (see next entry) and the Texas State Board of Acupuncture Examiners

Composition (19 members total):

- 12 members who are learned and eminent physicians licensed in Texas for at least three years:
 - 9 must be graduates of a reputable medical school or college with a degree of doctor of medicine
 - 3 must be graduates of a reputable medical school or college with a degree of doctor of osteopathic medicine
- 7 members who represent the public

All members are appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate.

Expiration date: September 1, 2017, unless continued by the legislature under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act)

Physician Assistant Board, Texas

Previous Name: Texas State Board of Physician Assistant Examiners (Texas Medical Board)

Legislation: Senate Bill 419, Article 2; the name change is effective September 1, 2005

Function (unchanged): Regulates physician assistants with the advice and approval of the Texas Medical Board

Composition:

- Previous: 9 members total appointed by the governor
- New (9 members total appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate):
 - 3 practicing physician assistants who each have at least five years of clinical experience as a physician assistant
 - 3 physicians who are licensed in this state and who supervise physician assistants
 - 3 public members who are not licensed as a physician or physician assistant

Expiration date: None (removed from the Texas Sunset Act)

Regional Emergency Medical Dispatch Resource Center Pilot Program Work Group (Area Health Education Center, The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston)

Previous Name: Regional Emergency Medical Dispatch Resource Center Work Group (Emergency Medical Services Advisory Council)

Legislation: Senate Bill 523, Section 1; creation of the renamed work group is optional, not mandatory, effective May 3, 2005

Function:

- Previous: Assisted the Texas Department of Health in developing, implementing, evaluating, and reporting on the pilot program to test the efficacy of using emergency medical dispatchers located in a regional emergency medical dispatch resource center to provide life-saving and other emergency medical instructions to persons who need guidance while awaiting the arrival of emergency medical personnel
- New: Same as above, except the work group assists the area health education center at The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston in developing, implementing, evaluating, and reporting on the pilot program

Composition: To be determined by the area health education center at The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, rather than the advisory council

Expiration date: September 1, 2009

Savings and Mortgage Lending, Department of

Previous Name: Savings and Loan Department

Legislation: House Bill 955, Section 3.02; the name change is effective September 1, 2005

Function (unchanged): Regulates state chartered savings banks, mortgage banking companies, and mortgage brokers and loan officers in Texas under the oversight and jurisdiction of the Finance Commission of Texas

Composition: Not applicable

Expiration date (unchanged): September 1, 2013

Technology Workforce Development Grants Program Evaluation Committee (Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

Previous Name: Technology Workforce Development Grants Program Advisory Committee

Legislation: House Bill 1697, Section 2; the name change is effective September 1, 2005

Function (unchanged): Evaluates the effectiveness of the technology workforce development grants program at the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Composition (unchanged): Unspecified number of members appointed by the coordinating board to include higher education representatives and experts in the fields of engineering and computer science

Expiration date (unchanged): None

Abolished Entities

Agriculture Resources Protection Authority, Texas

Legislation: Senate Bill 1680, Section 1; abolition is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Coordinated policies and programs of state agencies with responsibility for the management, regulation, and control of pesticides

Composition: 15 members

Barber Examiners, State Board of

Legislation: Senate Bill 411, Sections 2.03–2.07, 5.01, 6.01; abolition is effective January 1, 2006 (the board is continued in existence until that date for the sole purpose of transferring obligations)

Function: Regulated the practice of barbering in Texas

Functions are transferred to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, assisted by a new Advisory Board on Barbering.

Composition: 7 members

Cosmetology Commission, Texas

Legislation: Senate Bill 411, Sections 3.03–3.09, 5.01, 6.01; abolition is effective January 1, 2006 (the commission is continued in existence until that date for the sole purpose of transferring obligations)

Function: Regulated the practice of cosmetology in Texas

Functions are transferred to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, assisted by a new Advisory Board on Cosmetology.

Composition: 6 members

Environmental Technology, Texas Council on

Legislation: House Bill 2481, Sections 13 and 22; abolition is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Assisted in developing solutions to air, water, and waste problems and provided consultation on the new technology research and development program to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality

Functions are transferred to a nonprofit organization based in Houston (described by Section 386.252(a)(2), Health and Safety Code).

Composition: 11 members

Executive Advisory Committee (Texas Food and Fibers Commission)

Legislation: House Bill 373, Section 5; abolition is effective May 30, 2005

Function: Reviewed the work of the former Texas Food and Fibers Commission, which House Bill 373 replaces with the Food and Fibers Research Council

Composition: 9 members

Food and Fibers Commission, Texas

Legislation: House Bill 373; abolition is effective January 1, 2006

Function: Contracted with universities engaged in agricultural research in Texas to conduct surveys, research, and investigations relating to the production and increased use of cotton, oilseed products, wool, mohair, and other textile products

A new entity, the Food and Fibers Research Council (Texas Department of Agriculture), is created with a related, but different function.

Composition: 4 members

Food Protein Committee (Texas Food and Fibers Commission)

Legislation: House Bill 373, Section 5; abolition is effective May 30, 2005

Function: Reviewed food protein related research done for the former Texas Food and Fibers Commission, which House Bill 373 replaces with the Food and Fibers Research Council

Composition: Up to 25 members

Guaranty Association Advisory Committee

Legislation: House Bill 1353, Section 4; abolition is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Provided recommendations relating to creation of the Texas Group Self Insurance Guaranty Association, which House Bill 1353 replaces with the Texas Self-Insurance Group Guaranty Fund Board

Composition: 6 members

Health and Human Services Transition Legislative Oversight Committee (Texas Legislature)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1188, Section 28; abolition is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Facilitated the transfer of powers and duties between the state's health and human services agencies and the Health and Human Services Commission following the passage of related legislation in 2003

Composition: 7 members

Health Care Network Advisory Committee (Texas Workers' Compensation Commission)

Legislation: House Bill 7, Section 7.01(20); abolition is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Advised the former Texas Workers' Compensation Commission on the implementation of regional health care delivery networks; House Bill 7 replaces the commission with the Division of Workers' Compensation at the Texas Department of Insurance and authorizes the commissioner of workers' compensation to appoint advisory committees as necessary

Composition: 14 members

Long-Term Care Legislative Oversight Committee (Texas Legislature)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1188, Section 27; abolition is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Monitored the effectiveness and efficiency of the nursing facility regulatory system in Texas; records are transferred to the standing committees of the senate and the house having primary jurisdiction over long-term care services

Functions are transferred to standing legislative committees.

Composition: 6 members

Medical Advisory Committee (Texas Workers' Compensation Commission)

Legislation: House Bill 7, Sections 7.01(21) and 8.012; abolition is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Advised the division of medical review of the Texas Workers' Compensation Commission in developing and administering medical policies and fee and utilization guidelines; House Bill 7 transfers powers and duties of the commission to the Division of Workers' Compensation of the Texas Department of Insurance and requires a medical advisor employed by or under contract with that division to create a medical quality review panel

Functions are transferred to a medical quality review panel at the Division of Workers' Compensation, Texas Department of Insurance.

Composition: 18 members

Motor Vehicle Board (Texas Department of Transportation)

Legislation: House Bill 2702, Sections 7.01 and 7.06; abolition is effective June 14, 2005

Function: Regulated the sale and distribution of new motor vehicles; activities other than rulemaking are transferred to the director of the Motor Vehicle Division of the Texas Department of Transportation; rulemaking is transferred to the Texas Transportation Commission

Functions are transferred to the Motor Vehicle Division, Texas Department of Transportation.

Composition: 9 members

Natural Fibers Committee (Texas Food and Fibers Commission)

Legislation: House Bill 373, Section 5; abolition is effective May 30, 2005

Function: Reviewed natural fiber related research done for the former Texas Food and Fibers Commission, which House Bill 373 replaces with the Food and Fibers Research Council

Composition: Up to 25 members

Perfusionists, Texas State Board of Examiners of

Legislation: Senate Bill 403; abolition is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Regulated perfusionists in Texas and was administratively attached to the Department of State Health Services

Functions are transferred to the Department of State Health Services, assisted by a new Texas State Perfusionist Advisory Committee.

Composition: 9 members

Pharmaceuticals Bulk Purchasing, Interagency Council on

Legislation: Senate Bill 1188, Section 29; abolition is effective September 1, 2007

Function: Developed procedures for member agencies to follow in purchasing pharmaceuticals

Composition: At least 5 members

Psychological Associate Advisory Committee (Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists)

Legislation: House Bill 1015, Sections 24 and 25; abolition is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Advised the Texas State Board of Examiners of Psychologists on rules relating to psychological associates

Composition: 6 members

Public Safety Radio Communications Council

Legislation: Senate Bill 9, Sections 22 and 23; abolition is effective June 18, 2005

Function: Oversaw the implementation of a statewide integrated public safety radio communications system for public safety and homeland security purposes; the Office of the Governor replaces the council as the entity responsible for oversight of the development of a program related to the interoperability of radio communications

Functions are transferred to the Office of the Governor.

Composition: 8 members

Recycling Market Development Board

Legislation: House Bill 2466; abolition is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Coordinated the recycling activities of state agencies; functions and duties are transferred to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the Texas Building and Procurement Commission jointly

Functions are transferred to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and the Texas Building and Procurement Commission.

Composition: At least 2 members

State Aircraft Pooling Board

Legislation: House Bill 2702, Section 8.02; abolition is effective June 14, 2005

Function: Operated a pool for the custody, control, operation, and maintenance of aircraft owned or leased by the state; powers and duties are transferred to the Texas Department of Transportation

Functions are transferred to the Texas Department of Transportation.

Composition: 4 members

TexasOnline Authority

Legislation: House Bill 2048, Sections 24 and 26; abolition is effective June 18, 2005

Function: Implemented a project designated “TexasOnline” to serve as a portal to Texas government electronic resources at the state and local levels

Functions are transferred to the Department of Information Resources.

Composition: 17 members

Work and Family Policies Advisory Committee (Texas Workforce Commission)

Legislation: House Bill 2962, Section 5; abolition is effective May 30, 2005

Function: Advised the Texas Workforce Commission on employment-related family issues

Composition: Up to 12 members

Workers' Compensation Commission, Texas

Legislation: House Bill 7, Sections 1.003 and 8.001; abolition is effective September 1, 2005

Function: Administered Texas workers' compensation laws; powers and duties are transferred to the Division of Workers' Compensation of the Texas Department of Insurance

Functions are transferred to the Division of Workers' Compensation, Texas Department of Insurance.

Composition: 6 members