

Interim Studies Established by Enrolled Bills and Resolutions 85th Legislature

Regular Session
and
1st Called Session
2017



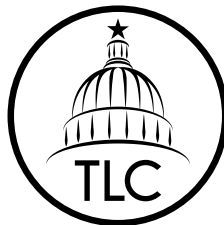
Texas
Legislative
Council

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**Regular Session
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2017**

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Texas Legislative Council

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Lieutenant Governor Dan Patrick, Joint Chair
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Foreword

This publication catalogs interim studies required by law or requested by concurrent resolution passed by the 85th Legislature, Regular and 1st Called Sessions, that provide for a one-time or initial report to the legislature in 2018 or 2019. It covers studies to be conducted by state agencies, joint legislative committees, and other state governmental entities but not studies by standing or special legislative committees conducted solely as a result of charges issued by the lieutenant governor and speaker of the house. It also does not include ongoing reports required by previously enacted study provisions that do not expire.

The studies are organized by topic and, within each topic, in bill order. For each interim study in the publication, the following information is provided:

Title—Because the title of the study is not specified in the legislation, the titles used in this publication are based on bill or resolution language.

Submitting Entity (in parentheses)—The name of the state agency or other entity required to submit a report on the study.

Legislation—The bill and specific section(s), article, or rider enacted by the 85th Legislature containing provisions requiring the study or the concurrent resolution passed by the 85th Legislature requesting the study. If the entire bill relates to the study, a bill section is not specified. All bills and resolutions were enacted during the regular session unless otherwise noted.

Description—A summary description of the study. In most cases, the submitting entity is required to conduct the study, but, if applicable, other participating entities are noted. Report requirements also are briefly described if addressed in the legislation.

Due Date(s)—The deadline(s) for submitting the required report(s). If no due date is specified, this entry is omitted.

Recipient(s)—The persons or entities to whom the report must be submitted. If no recipients are specified, this entry is omitted.

Expiration Date—The date bill provisions or statutory provisions requiring the study expire. If no expiration date is specified, this entry is omitted.

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Appropriations and State Finance

Classification Study on Scheduled Exempt Positions in the General Appropriations Act (State Auditor's Office)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#) (General Appropriations Act), Section 3.08, Page IX-23

Description: Study to review the compensation of exempt positions and executive compensation in the General Appropriations Act, similar to the biennial study performed by the State Auditor's Office under the Position Classification Act. Study must compare exempt positions from different agencies using specified criteria.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Legislature
- Legislative Budget Board

State Programs Not Funded by Appropriations (Comptroller of Public Accounts)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1831](#)

Description: Annual report that identifies for each state agency in the executive, legislative, or judicial branch of state government any program the agency is statutorily required to implement for which no appropriation was made for the preceding state fiscal year. Report must provide the amount and source of any money a state agency spent during the preceding state fiscal year to implement a state program not funded by an appropriation.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than December 31, 2017

Recipient: Legislature

Business and Commerce

Sale of Retail Electric Power by the General Land Office (General Land Office)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 736](#)

Description: Report on the number of participants, aggregate rates, general contract terms, and extent of any fiscal impact on state resources related to administering the sale of retail electric power by the General Land Office.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2018

Recipient: Legislature

Courts

How Records Regarding Misdemeanors Punishable by Fine Only, Other Than Traffic Offenses, Are Held in Texas Counties (Office of Court Administration)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 47](#)

Description: Study on how records regarding misdemeanors punishable by fine only, other than traffic offenses, are held in Texas counties. Study must address, with respect to each county, the public availability of records regarding convictions and deferred dispositions for such misdemeanors. Bill requires a report on the study.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2019

Recipients:

- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Appropriate standing committees of the senate and the house

Expiration Date: September 1, 2019

Outcomes of Specialty Court Participants With Mental Illness

(Office of Court Administration)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1326](#), Section 32

Description: Report containing and evaluating information from specialty courts in Texas regarding outcomes of participants with mental illness. Report must include the recidivism rates of specialty court participants with mental illness.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2019

State Judicial Salaries

(Joint Interim Committee to Study State Judicial Salaries)

Legislation: [Senate Concurrent Resolution 57](#)

Description: Study of state judicial salaries to include creating a formula to calculate state judicial salaries and examining the salaries of the highest appellate courts of the nine most populous states other than Texas, the salaries of judges on the United States Courts of Appeals, and the average starting base salaries of first-year associate attorneys at the five largest law firms in Texas.

Criminal Justice

Use of Drug Field Test Kits by Law Enforcement Agencies in Texas

(Texas Forensic Science Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 34](#), Section 8

Description: Study regarding the use of drug field test kits by law enforcement agencies in Texas to include an evaluation of the quality, accuracy, and reliability of the test kits and the availability and adequacy of training for law enforcement officers regarding the use of the test kits and the interpretation of the test results. Report must summarize the results of the study and include any legislative recommendations.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Legislature

How Crime Scene Investigations Are Conducted in Texas (Texas Forensic Science Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 34](#), Section 9

Description: Study regarding the manner in which crime scene investigations are conducted in Texas to include an evaluation of the standard procedures used in processing a crime scene, the quality of crime scene investigations, and the availability and adequacy of the training or continuing education provided to crime scene investigators. Report must summarize the results of the study and include any legislative recommendations.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Legislature

Confinement of Pregnant Inmates by TDCJ (Texas Department of Criminal Justice)

Legislation: [House Bill 239](#)

Description: Report on the confinement of pregnant inmates in facilities operated by or under contract with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice to include a description of the department's implementation of policies and procedures to provide adequate care to pregnant inmates.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over matters relating to corrections

Expiration Date: February 1, 2019

Penal Laws, Other Than Criminal Offenses, Under Certain Statutes (Commission to Study and Review Certain Penal Laws)

Legislation: [House Bill 351](#), Section 30

Description: Study of all penal laws, other than criminal offenses, under the Penal Code, under the Texas Controlled Substances Act, or related to the operation of a motor vehicle. Study must evaluate the recommendations made by a similar commission created by the 84th Legislature. Report must include any specific statutes the new commission recommends repealing or amending.

Due Date: Not later than November 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Supreme Court of Texas
- Texas Court of Criminal Appeals
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over criminal justice

Expiration Date: December 31, 2018

Elections

Cyber Attacks on Election Infrastructure (Secretary of State)

Legislation: [House Bill 8](#), Section 14

Description: Study regarding cyber attacks on election infrastructure to include an investigation of vulnerabilities and risks for a cyber attack against a county's voting system machines or list of registered voters. Study must include information on any attempted cyber attack on a county's voting system machines or list of registered voters and recommendations for protecting against such an attack. Report must not contain any information the release of which may compromise any election.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients: Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over election procedures

Expiration Date: January 1, 2019

Environment

Feasibility and Desirability of Creating and Maintaining a Coastal Barrier System in Texas

(Joint Interim Committee to Study a Coastal Barrier System)

Legislation: [House Bill 2252](#)

Description: Continuation of a study established by the 83rd Legislature and continued by the 84th Legislature regarding the feasibility and desirability of creating and maintaining a coastal barrier system in Texas that includes a series of gates and barriers to prevent storm surge damage to gulf beaches or coastal ports, industry, or property. Report must include the findings of the study and any recommendations developed by the joint interim committee.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature

Expiration Date: January 7, 2019

Assessment of the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact Facility

(Compact Facility Legislative Oversight Committee)

Legislation: [House Bill 2662](#), Section 4

Description: Assessment of the Texas Low-Level Radioactive Waste Disposal Compact facility to include recommendations relating to costs, fees, and any other matters the legislative oversight committee determines are relevant to the compact facility and oversight of the compact facility. Report must include the results of the assessment.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients: Standing committees of the senate and the house with jurisdiction over the disposal of low-level radioactive waste

Expiration Date: December 31, 2018

TexNet Seismic Monitoring Program at the UT Bureau of Economic Geology (TexNet Technical Advisory Committee)

Legislation: [House Bill 2819](#)

Description: Biennial report on the TexNet seismic monitoring program administered by The University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology to include a review of the use of any funds appropriated for the program, a complete listing and accounting of all research funded through the program, and recommendations related to the ongoing operations and requirements of the program.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house

Expiration Date: September 1, 2019

Family Law

Form of Jury Submissions in General and in Suits Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship Filed by DFPS (Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [House Bill 7](#), Section 6

Description: Review conducted by the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) in collaboration with interested parties, including the Permanent Judicial Commission for Children, Youth and Families, of the form of jury submissions in Texas. Review relates to questions submitted to a jury that require a verdict from the jury. Report must include recommendations regarding whether broad-form or specific jury questions should be required in suits filed by DFPS affecting the parent-child relationship.

Due Date: Not later than December 31, 2017

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2019

Appointment and Use of Attorneys Ad Litem in Cases Involving DFPS (Permanent Judicial Commission for Children, Youth and Families)

Legislation: [House Bill 7](#), Section 72

Description: Study of the appointment and use of attorneys ad litem in cases involving the Department of Family and Protective Services to include an examination of the best practices for attorneys ad litem, a survey of attorneys ad litem about the attorneys' training, a statistical analysis of the data and information collected in the study, and policy recommendations for improving the attorney ad litem appointment process. Bill requires a report based on the findings of the study.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2018

Recipient: Legislature

Health and Human Services

State and Federal Laws Concerning Benefits for Mental Health Conditions and Substance Use Disorders (Mental Health Condition and Substance Use Disorder Parity Work Group)

Legislation: [House Bill 10](#), Section 1

Description: Study of state and federal laws concerning the availability of, and terms and conditions of, benefits for mental health conditions and substance use disorders. Biennial report must include findings, recommendations to increase compliance with the laws, and a strategic plan to increase education and outreach related to the laws.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than September 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Appropriate standing committees of the senate and the house
- Appropriate state agencies

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Data Comparing Medical Benefits and Benefits for Mental Health Conditions and Substance Use Disorders

(Texas Department of Insurance; Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 10](#), Sections 3 and 4

Description: Studies to collect and compare data from health benefit plan issuers subject to the bill and from Medicaid managed care organizations regarding benefits for medical or surgical expenses and for mental health conditions and substance use disorders. Bill requires reports on the results of each study.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2018

Pilot Program to Provide Summer Internships for Foster Youth

(Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [House Bill 1608](#)

Description: Evaluation of a pilot program to provide foster youth with the opportunity to develop marketable job skills and obtain professional work experience through a summer internship with a participating business, nonprofit organization, or governmental entity. Report must include the number of participants and the types of internships provided under the program.

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Pediatric Health Tele-Connectivity Resource Program for Rural Texas

(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1697](#)

Description: Biennial report regarding the pediatric health tele-connectivity resource program for rural Texas to award grants, if money is appropriated or donated for the program, to nonurban health care facilities to connect the facilities with pediatric specialists and pediatric subspecialists who provide telemedicine medical services. Report must include the results and outcomes of grants that are awarded.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature

Improving Access to Mental Health Care Services for First Responders (Work Group on Mental Health Access for First Responders)

Legislation: [House Bill 1794](#)

Description: Recommendations to address nine issues related to improving access to mental health care services for first responders. Work group must develop a report of the work group's recommendations.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2019

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Legislature

Expiration Date: June 1, 2019

Monitoring of the Prescribing and Dispensing of Controlled Substances in Texas (Joint Interim Committee on Prescribing and Dispensing Controlled Substances)

Legislation: [House Bill 2561](#), Section 22

Description: Study on the monitoring of the prescribing and dispensing of controlled substances in Texas to include issues related to accessing prescription information submitted to the Texas State Board of Pharmacy. Report must include the results of the study, including any legislative recommendations for improvements to information access and controlled substance prescription monitoring.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2019

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: January 2, 2019

Delivery of Basic Attendant and Habilitation Services to Texas Medicaid Recipients Enrolled in Certain Programs

(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 3295](#), Section 3

Description: Study regarding the feasibility of establishing a community attendant registry to assist Texas Medicaid recipients enrolled in the community attendant services program in locating providers. Study must also identify and evaluate barriers preventing Texas Medicaid recipients enrolled in the STAR + PLUS Medicaid managed care program or a home and community-based services waiver program from choosing the consumer directed services option. Bill requires a report on the Health and Human Services Commission's findings and recommendations.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature
- Legislative Budget Board

Delivery of Dental Services to Adults With Disabilities Under the Texas Medicaid Program

(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 3295](#), Section 4

Description: Study of the delivery of dental services to adults with disabilities under the Texas Medicaid program. Report must include recommendations for improving access to dental services in the community and for reducing the provision of dental services to such adults during emergency room visits.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018. [Senate Bill 1](#) (Rider 188, page II-102) requires the Health and Human Services Commission to submit a report on the delivery of dental services to adults with disabilities under the Texas Medicaid program by this same date.

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature
- Legislative Budget Board

Family Finding Collaboration to Increase Support for Children in State Care (Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 26, Page II-14

Description: Study regarding a collaboration between the Department of Family and Protective Services, volunteer advocate programs, and local Child Protective Services offices to support family finding efforts and the Collaborative Family Engagement model. Report must assess the success of the collaboration and its impact on improving permanency outcomes, increasing family involvement and support for children in state care, and improving child well-being.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Chair of the Senate Finance Committee
- Chair of the House Appropriations Committee
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over health and human services
- Legislative Budget Board

Effectiveness of Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Programs for At-Risk Families (Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 28, Page II-14

Description: Assessment of community-based child abuse and neglect prevention programs provided by any vendor selected to deliver the services in accordance with a strategic plan developed by the Department of Family and Protective Services. Report must include the number of families served by each prevention program and address certain outcome measures.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Chair of the Senate Finance Committee
- Chair of the House Appropriations Committee
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over health and human services
- Legislative Budget Board

Services to Victims of Sex Trafficking in Foster Care (Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 45, Page II-18

Description: Study to develop standards for the placement capacity needed to provide services to children in foster care who are victims of sex trafficking. Report must include recommendations on the number of licensed facilities required statewide to provide such services.

Due Date: Not later than April 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Senate Finance Committee
- Senate Health and Human Services Committee
- House Appropriations Committee
- House Human Services Committee
- Legislative Budget Board

Collection of Emergency Room Data to Measure Potentially Preventable Emergency Room Visits (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 12, Page II-27

Description: Study using emergency room data collected by the Department of State Health Services to measure potentially preventable emergency room visits, including mental health and substance abuse emergency room visits. Annual report must contain study results.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than December 31, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Chairs of the standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over public health issues
- Legislative Budget Board
- Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council

Development of Local Health Department Performance Measures (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 33, Page II-32

Description: Development of a list of high priority performance measures for local health departments that receive grants from the Department of State Health Services. Report must include plans to utilize the performance measures in distributing the grants.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Senate Finance Committee
- House Appropriations Committee
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over health and human services
- Legislative Budget Board

Paying for Newborn Screening (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 37, Page II-33

Description: Study of the most effective way to bill private insurers for the cost of newborn screening to include the feasibility of requiring the division of the Department of State Health Services with primary responsibility over performing newborn screening to bill private insurers for the cost of newborn screening kits. Report must include findings and recommendations.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over appropriations and health and human services
- Legislative Budget Board

Improving State Immunization Programs

(Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 38, Page II-33

Description: Study and assessment of the Vaccines for Children and the Adult Safety Net programs administered by the Department of State Health Services to identify methods that improve the cost effectiveness and quality of the programs. Report must outline any needed program improvements.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over health and human services
- Legislative Budget Board

State Regulation of Drug Compounding Outsourcing Facilities

(Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 40, Page II-34

Description: Review of Department of State Health Services rules, regulations, and licensing procedures for drug compounding outsourcing facilities registered under the applicable provisions of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act. Report must include recommended facility licensing requirements that comply with rules adopted by the Texas State Board of Pharmacy if the study contemplates the ability of an outsourcing facility to dispense directly to a patient.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2019

Recipient: Legislature

Cost Comparison of Long-Term Care Options for Individuals With an Intellectual or Developmental Disability

(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 5, Page II-49

Description: Cost comparison report analyzing state and federally funded residential and nonresidential services to include the monthly average cost to the state per person for individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability residing in an intermediate care facility or receiving home and community-based services under a waiver program. Report must include the number of persons who transitioned from a state-operated facility to a residential waiver program during the previous biennium.

Due Date: Not later than August 31, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature
- Legislative Budget Board

Use of Pay for Quality Measures in the Texas Medicaid Program

(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 21, Page II-53

Description: Study of how Texas Medicaid program providers and managed care organizations have used pay for quality measures to improve health care delivery. Report must include recommendations to improve pay for quality measures if such measures are used in outpatient settings for Medicaid patients.

Due Date: Not later than October 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Appropriate standing committees of the senate and the house
- Legislative Budget Board

New Delivery Models for Texas' Medicaid Vendor Drug Program (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 24, Page II-53

Description: Study of Texas' Medicaid vendor drug program to include an evaluation of new delivery models for cost effectiveness, increased competition, and improved health outcomes. Report must include a summary of efforts to make the current delivery models more effective.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Appropriate standing committees of the senate and the house
- Legislative Budget Board

Coordination Between the Texas Medicaid Program and the Texas Diabetes Council (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 26, Page II-53

Description: Study by the Health and Human Services Commission, in consultation with the Texas Diabetes Council, to identify efficiencies across agencies to integrate systems of care for Medicaid patients diagnosed with diabetes or at risk for diabetes. Report must include recommendations to increase enrollment in diabetes self-management education programs and improve diabetes screening rates.

Due Date: Not later than August 31, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature

Oversight of State Supported Living Centers for Individuals With Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities

(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 87, Page II-70

Description: Annual status report on state compliance with a Department of Justice Settlement Agreement regarding oversight of state supported living centers that serve people with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are medically fragile or have behavioral problems. A related staffing report must analyze data regarding the reasons for staff turnover at state supported living centers and include an analysis of the fiscal and policy impacts of establishing a career ladder for certain positions at the living centers.

Due Date: Not later than August 31, 2018, for the initial status report and the staffing report

Recipients:

- Governor
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over health and human services
- Legislative Budget Board

Postpartum Depression Screening and Treatment in Public Health Programs

(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 189, Page II-103

Description: Report on screening for and treating postpartum depression in public health programs, including the Texas Medicaid program, local mental health authority programs, and women's health programs. Report must include relevant clinical data.

Due Date: Not later than February 1, 2019

Recipients:

- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over the operation or financing of public health programs
- Legislative Budget Board
- Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force

Enhanced Criminal Background Check Standards for HHSC Contractor Employees Who Work With Children and the Elderly (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 200, Page II-104

Description: Study on the feasibility and necessity of developing enhanced criminal background check standards for individuals who work with children and the elderly as employees of an entity that contracts with the Health and Human Services Commission. Report must provide findings and recommendations.

Due Date: Not later than March 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Senate Finance Committee
- House Appropriations Committee
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over health and human services
- Legislative Budget Board

Enhanced Eligibility Screening Tools to Reduce Fraud, Waste, and Abuse in State Assistance Programs (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 201, Page II-105

Description: Report on findings from quarterly cross-matching, beginning September 1, 2017, statistically significant samples of recipient enrollment records from certain state assistance programs against death records and other specified records and data. Report must include findings of incidents of fraud, waste, or abuse in the programs.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over the Health and Human Services Commission

Efficiencies Related to Technology and Electronic Visit Verification in the Texas Medicaid Program

(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 205, Page II-106

Description: Review of technology and electronic visit verification in the Texas Medicaid program to include programmatic and administrative areas in which the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) could achieve operational efficiencies. Review must include strategies to streamline electronic visit verification for health care providers. Report must detail HHSC findings.

Due Date: Not later than March 31, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Senate Finance Committee
- House Appropriations Committee
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over health and human services
- Legislative Budget Board

Effect on the Texas Medicaid Program Costs of Increasing to 21 Years the Minimum Legal Age to Access Tobacco and Electronic Nicotine Delivery System Products

(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 212, Page II-107

Description: Study by the Health and Human Services Commission with assistance from the comptroller of public accounts and the Legislative Budget Board on opportunities for cost savings to the Texas Medicaid program from increasing from 18 to 21 years the minimum legal age to access tobacco and electronic nicotine delivery system products. Report must include estimates of cost savings related to the prevention of preterm births and low birth weight births attributable to smoking.

Due Date: Not later than August 31, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Chair of the Senate Finance Committee
- Chair of the House Appropriations Committee
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over health and human services
- Legislative Budget Board

Comprehensive Evaluation of Managed Care in the Texas Medicaid Program (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 220, Page II-109

Description: Comprehensive evaluation of managed care in the Texas Medicaid program conducted by an independent organization under a contract with the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC). Report must include findings from a review by HHSC regarding oversight of Medicaid and CHIP managed care contracts, a study of Medicaid managed care rate setting processes and methodologies in other states, and an audit of administrative expenditures made by managed care organizations in Medicaid and CHIP.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Senate Finance Committee
- House Appropriations Committee
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over health and human services
- Legislative Budget Board

Medical Examination of Children in DFPS Conservatorship for More Than Three Business Days (Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 11](#), Section 15

Description: Report evaluating the statewide implementation of the requirement that a child taken into Department of Family and Protective Services conservatorship who remains in the conservatorship for more than three business days receive an initial medical examination by the end of the third business day if the child shows signs of abuse, illness, or mental health conditions. Report must include the level of compliance with the medical examination requirement in each region of Texas.

Due Date: Not later than December 31, 2019

Recipients: Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over child protective services and foster care

Program to Recruit Young Adult Caregivers as Foster Parents (Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 11](#), Section 16

Description: Study on the feasibility of developing a program to recruit young adult caregivers and provide training for young adult caregivers who provide foster care for children 14 years of age or older. Report must include the potential impact the program will have on foster children participating in the program.

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2019

Pilot Program Under Which a Contracted Entity Provides Family-Based Safety Services and Case Management (Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 11](#), Section 18

Description: Report on the progress of a pilot program developed and implemented by the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) in two child protective services regions of Texas under which DFPS contracts with a single nonprofit entity or a governmental entity in each region to provide family-based safety services and case management for children and families receiving those services. Report must include an evaluation of each contracted entity's success in achieving the specified outcomes for families receiving the services and a recommendation as to whether the pilot program should be continued, expanded, or terminated.

Due Date: Not later than December 31, 2018

Recipients: Standing committees of the senate and the house with jurisdiction over child protective services and foster care matters

Career Development and Education Program for Foster Care Youth (Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1220](#), Section 3

Description: Report by the Department of Family and Protective Services, in collaboration with the Texas Education Agency, on the creation of a career development and education program to assist foster care youth and former foster care youth in obtaining a high school diploma, a high school equivalency certificate, and industry certifications and to provide career guidance and information about available tuition and fee waivers for institutions of higher education. Report must include recommendations for legislative or other action to further develop the program.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with jurisdiction over education

Expiration Date: September 1, 2019

Pilot Program at DSHS to Restore the Competency of a Mentally Ill Defendant Determined to Be Incompetent to Stand Trial (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1326](#), Section 29

Description: Report concerning a jail-based restoration of competency pilot program, if the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) develops and implements such a program. Report must include information collected by DSHS during the program and the DSHS commissioner's evaluation of the outcome of the program as of the date the report is submitted.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients: Presiding officers of the standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over health and human services issues and criminal justice issues

Expiration Date: September 1, 2019

Projected Growth and Geographic Distribution of Visually Impaired Seniors (Aging Texas Well Advisory Committee)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1693](#)

Description: Study to determine the projected growth and geographic distribution of seniors with a visual impairment in the next 5 to 10 years and methods for improving and expanding services, including independent living services, to those seniors. Report must include methods to publicize the services available to seniors with a visual impairment.

Due Date: Not later than November 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Legislature

Expiration Date: June 1, 2019

Plan to Standardize the Curriculum for a Program Available to Foster Children in DFPS Conservatorship Who Must Transition to Independent Living (Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1758](#), Section 6

Description: Report on a plan to standardize the curriculum for the preparation for adult living program available to youth 14 years of age or older in the Department of Family and Protective Services' permanent managing conservatorship who must transition to independent living. The plan must ensure that youth enrolled in the program receive relevant and age-appropriate information and training.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipient: Legislature

Occupational Training Programs for Individuals With an Intellectual Disability (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 2027](#)

Description: Study by the Health and Human Services Commission in conjunction with the Texas Workforce Commission regarding occupational training programs available in Texas for individuals with an intellectual disability. Study must determine strategies for placing trained individuals with intellectual disabilities into fulfilling jobs using existing or improved occupational training programs. Bill requires a report on the results of the study.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Appropriate standing committees of the senate and the house

Expiration Date: September 1, 2019

Reducing Pregnancy-Related Deaths, Treating Postpartum Depression, and Improving Quality Outcomes Related to Severe Maternal Morbidity (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 17](#), 1st Called Session, Section 8

Description: Study by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to evaluate options for reducing pregnancy-related deaths and treating postpartum depression in economically disadvantaged women. Study also must identify, in coordination with the Department of State Health Services and the Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force, strategies to lower Texas Medicaid program costs and improve quality outcomes related to severe maternal morbidity and chronic illness. Report must include information relating to the implementation and effectiveness of the maternal health and safety initiative to promote the use of best practices in maternal health and safety. Report must also include the results of a feasibility study on adding a provider's use of procedures included in the initiative as an indicator of quality for HHSC data and Texas Medicaid program quality-based payment purposes.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018. Subsequent reports to the legislature are required under provisions that do not expire.

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Appropriate standing committees of the senate and the house
- Legislative Budget Board

Expiration Date (Feasibility Study): May 1, 2019

Improving the Collection of Accurate Information Related to Cause of Death (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 17](#), 1st Called Session, Section 10

Description: Report on the processes and procedures for collecting cause of death information, including any challenges to collecting accurate information relating to maternal mortality. Report must include recommendations for improving the collection of accurate information related to cause of death.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than December 1, 2018. [Senate Bill 1](#) (Rider 36, Page II-33) requires the Department of State Health Services to submit a report on enhancing the quality of cause of death information collection in regard to death certificates by October 1, 2018.

Recipients (S.B. 17):

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Appropriate standing committees of the senate and the house

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Higher Education

Interventions for Students Underprepared for College (Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 33, Page III-55

Description: Study to determine the most effective and efficient interventions for students underprepared for college using information collected annually from the Developmental Education Program Survey and other Texas Success Initiative data. A related report is required.

Due Date: Before January 1, 2019

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Chair of the Senate Finance Committee
- Chair of the House Appropriations Committee
- Senate Higher Education Committee
- House Higher Education Committee

Amount, Purposes, and Use of Designated Tuition at Public Institutions of Higher Education

(Public institutions of higher education charging designated tuition)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Section 46, Page III-268

Description: Report from the governing board of each public institution of higher education charging designated tuition regarding the amount, purposes, and use of the tuition collected for the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 academic years. Report must include the amount of and method of allocating designated tuition set aside for student assistance.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Chair of the Senate Finance Committee
- Chair of the House Appropriations Committee

Higher Education Formula Funding

(Joint Interim Committee on Higher Education Formula Funding)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Section 62, Page III-274

Description: Recommendations for realigning, eliminating, or realigning and eliminating non-formula support items and for improving formula funding for institutions of higher education. Study must include a review of the purpose, goal, and effectiveness of all non-formula support items and may include, among other considerations, an evaluation of potential formula adjustments to institutions of higher education that are growing or that have static enrollment. Report is intended for use in developing budget instructions for the 2020-2021 biennium.

Due Date: Not later than April 15, 2018

Recipients:

- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house

Best Practices in the Transfer of Course Credit Between Public Institutions of Higher Education

(Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 802](#)

Description: Study to identify best practices in the transfer of course credit between public institutions of higher education to ensure that courses transferred to an institution of higher education for course credit, including courses offered for dual credit, apply toward a degree program at the institution. Report must provide the results of the study and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

Due Date: Not later than November 1, 2018

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2019

Results of an Open Educational Resources Grant Program

(Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 810](#), Section 39

Description: Report on the results of an open educational resources grant program to encourage faculty at institutions of higher education to adopt, modify, redesign, or develop courses that use only open educational resources that are free to use by any person. Report must include an estimate of the total amount of money saved by students due to the use of open educational resources in courses adopted, modified, redesigned, or developed under the grant program.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than December 1, 2019

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over higher education

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Feasibility of Creating a State Repository of Open Educational Resources (Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 810](#), Section 40

Description: Study conducted by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, in collaboration with relevant state agencies and other stakeholders, to determine the feasibility of creating a state repository of open educational resources that are free to use by any person. Report must include information on measures necessary to ensure the repository's success, including measures to ensure public access to the repository.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over higher education

Expiration Date: September 1, 2019

Employment Positions Provided Through the Texas College Work-Study Program (Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1119](#)

Description: Annual, rather than biennial, report on the Texas college work-study program. Report must include the total number of students employed through the program, disaggregated by specified categories such as race, ethnicity, and gender.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than September 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over higher education

**Pilot Program to Ensure That Students Are Informed Consumers
With Regard to All Aspects of Student Financial Aid**
(Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1799](#)

Description: Copy of a report submitted by the Texas Guaranteed Student Loan Corporation to the United States Department of Education regarding administration of a student loan default prevention and financial aid literacy pilot program to ensure that students at selected postsecondary educational institutions are informed consumers with regard to all aspects of student financial aid.

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house

Expiration Date: December 31, 2019

**Effectiveness of the Dental Hygiene Baccalaureate Degree Program
at Certain Public Junior Colleges**
(Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 2118](#), Section 5

Description: Report on the effectiveness of the dental hygiene baccalaureate degree program established at a public junior college described by the bill. Report must include any recommendations for legislative action regarding the offering of baccalaureate degree programs in the field of dental hygiene by a public junior college.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2019

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Chairs of the standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over higher education

Expiration Date: January 1, 2020

Housing

Effectiveness of Weatherization Programs for Low-Income Households (Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 14, Page VII-8

Description: Study by the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs in coordination with certain investor-owned utilities on the effectiveness of weatherization programs to help low-income households conserve energy and lower utility bills. Annual report must include the number of low-income households benefiting from the programs.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than March 15, 2018. Second report due not later than March 15, 2019.

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house

Insurance

Activities of the Temporary Health Insurance Risk Pool **Established Under Senate Bill 2087** (Texas Department of Insurance)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 2087](#)

Description: Annual report of the activities of the temporary health insurance risk pool established under the bill to provide a temporary mechanism for maximizing available federal funding to assist Texas residents in obtaining health insurance. Report must include information relating to premiums, enrollment, expenses, and losses associated with the pool.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than June 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house

Expiration Date: August 31, 2019

Juvenile Justice

Pilot Program for Alternative Disciplinary Placement in Junior ROTC Programs (Commissioner of Education)

Legislation: [House Bill 156](#)

Description: Review of a pilot program in designated public high schools in certain municipalities to permit an eligible student to choose to participate in a Junior ROTC program as an alternative to placement in a disciplinary alternative education program or juvenile justice alternative education program. Report must include the progress made by the pilot program in improving student educational outcomes.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2019

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Presiding officer of each standing committee of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over primary and secondary education

Expiration Date: September 1, 2019

Number of Juvenile Offenders Committed to TJJD Who Have Been in Foster Care (Texas Juvenile Justice Department)

Legislation: [House Bill 932](#)

Description: Annual report summarizing statistical information concerning the total number and percentage of children in the custody of the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD) during the preceding two years who have at any time been in foster care. The bill requires TJJD to submit a related report containing a method or methods to allow probation departments statewide to access information from the Department of Family and Protective Services relating to a child's placement in foster care.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than January 31, 2018. The related report is due not later than March 1, 2018.

Recipients (Annual Report):

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over the Texas Juvenile Justice Department

Recipients (Related Report):

- Legislature
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over the Texas Juvenile Justice Department

Juvenile Justice Issues, Including the Use of “Juvenile,” “Child,” and “Minor” in Certain Texas Statutes (Office of Court Administration)

Legislation: [House Bill 1204](#), Section 4

Description: Study to examine the use of the terms “juvenile,” “child,” and “minor” in state criminal justice and juvenile justice statutes and the varying definitions assigned to those terms. Study must also make certain determinations relating to adjudication of juveniles charged with misdemeanors punishable by fine only. Bill requires a report on the results of the study.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Appropriate standing committees of the senate and the house

Expiration Date: December 1, 2019

Military Forces and Veterans

Supporting the Transition From Military Service to Employment (Texas Workforce Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 257](#)

Description: Annual report by the Texas Workforce Commission, in consultation with the Texas Coordinating Council for Veterans Services, to identify occupations that align with the military occupational specialties and transferable skills of transitioning servicemembers and veterans. Report must include information on supporting the transition of servicemembers and veterans into those occupations.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than September 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Chairs of the standing committees of the senate and the house with appropriate jurisdiction

Pilot Program to Provide Hyperbaric Oxygen Treatment to Veterans With Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder or a Traumatic Brain Injury (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 271](#)

Description: Biennial report to evaluate the effectiveness of the veterans recovery pilot program to provide hyperbaric oxygen treatment and other services to eligible veterans with post-traumatic stress disorder or a traumatic brain injury. The pilot program may not be operated if the veterans recovery account established by the bill contains insufficient funds to cover the Health and Human Services Commission's expenses in administering the program. Report must include the number of participating veterans and facilities.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than October 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Appropriate standing committees of the senate and the house

Expiration Date: September 1, 2023

Occupational Regulation

Occupational License Eligibility Requirements Related to Criminal History (Each state agency that issues an occupational license)

Legislation: [House Bill 91](#)

Description: Review by a state agency that issues an occupational license of each occupational license eligibility requirement related to an applicant's criminal history. Report from the agency must include the results of the review and a recommendation regarding whether a requirement should be retained, modified, or repealed.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Legislature

Expiration Date: January 1, 2019

All Occupational Licenses Required by Texas (Comptroller of Public Accounts)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 2065](#), Article 3

Description: Biennial report regarding all occupational licenses, including permits, certifications, and registrations, required by Texas. Report must provide specified information for each type of license and include a list of all statutory provisions requiring a license that were abolished during the previous legislative session.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than December 31, 2018

Recipient: Legislature

Public Education

Impact of the Statewide Assessment Program on Students in Special Education Programs (Texas Education Agency)

Legislation: [House Bill 2130](#)

Description: Study of the impact of the statewide assessment program on students in special education programs. Study must consider whether administering state-required assessment instruments to such students will provide an accurate assessment of the academic achievement of the students. Report must include the determinations and recommendations developed as part of the study.

Due Date: Not later than October 1, 2018

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: January 1, 2019

Technology Lending Grant Program for Public Schools (Commissioner of Education)

Legislation: [House Bill 3526](#), Section 20

Description: Report reviewing a grant program the commissioner of education may establish to award grants to school districts and open-enrollment charter schools for the implementation of a technology lending program to provide students access to equipment necessary to access and use electronic instructional materials.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2019

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Presiding officers of the standing committees in the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over public education

Expiration Date: September 1, 2019

Increasing Transparency of State Funding for Public Education (Texas Education Agency)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 73, Page III-23

Description: Evaluation of state aid to school districts provided through the Foundation School Program for the existing and prior four biennia. Evaluation must compare state aid with the rate of inflation and other factors impacting school district costs. Report is in addition to other requirements to increase transparency of state funding for public education.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over education
- Legislative Budget Board

Statutory Changes to Improve the Public School Finance System (Texas Commission on Public School Finance)

Legislation: [House Bill 21](#), 1st Called Session, Section 7

Description: Development of recommendations to address issues related to the public school finance system, including the relationship between state and local funding in the system, the appropriate levels of local maintenance and operations and interest and sinking fund tax effort necessary to implement a system that complies with the requirements under the Texas Constitution, and policy changes to the system necessary to adjust for student demographics and the geographic diversity of Texas. Report must recommend statutory changes to improve the public school finance system, including any adjustments to funding to account for student demographics.

Due Date: Not later than December 31, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature

Expiration Date: January 8, 2019

Public Retirement Systems

Additional Options for High Deductible Health Plans Under the Texas Employees Group Benefits Act (Employees Retirement System of Texas)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 16, Page I-37

Description: Research on and development of options for a Texas Employees Group Benefits Act health plan that is similar to the existing state consumer-directed health plan but has a higher deductible and higher health savings account contribution. Report must include the additional options for high deductible health plans under the Texas Employees Group Benefits Act.

Due Date: Not later than August 31, 2018

Recipient: Legislature

Establishing a Patient-Reported Outcomes Registry for Musculoskeletal Care Provided Under Group Coverage Plans Administered by TRS and ERS (Teacher Retirement System of Texas and Employees Retirement System of Texas)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 55](#)

Description: Study conducted jointly by the Teacher Retirement System of Texas and the Employees Retirement System of Texas on the benefits and disadvantages of establishing a patient-reported outcomes registry for musculoskeletal care provided under group coverage plans administered by the systems. Study relates to the use of such a registry in conjunction with health coverage. Report must specify whether establishing a registry would be beneficial and effective and include recommendations for legislation, if appropriate.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with jurisdiction over state retirement systems and insurance

Expiration Date: September 1, 2019

Public Safety

Cybersecurity in Texas (Senate and House Select Committees on Cybersecurity)

Legislation: [House Bill 8](#), Section 15

Description: Study of cybersecurity in Texas, the information security plans of each state agency, and the risks and vulnerabilities of state agency cybersecurity. Report must include any findings and jointly adopted recommendations by the select committees on cybersecurity.

Due Date: Not later than January 13, 2019

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2019

Security Improvements in the State Capitol and the Governor’s Mansion (Department of Public Safety)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 51, Page V-57

Description: Report on the status of security improvements in the State Capitol and the Governor’s Mansion. Report must identify the security needs in the Capitol Complex and include strategies to address threats to individual members of the legislature.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Chair of the Senate Administration Committee
- Chair of the House Administration Committee

Disclosure of Emergency Call Information (Joint Interim Committee on Disclosure of Emergency Call Information)

Legislation: [House Concurrent Resolution 140](#)

Description: Study of the process, rules, handling, and processing of the disclosure of recordings and transcripts of emergency calls made by a subsequently deceased individual to a public safety agency or a public safety answering point. Report must include findings and recommendations.

Due Date: When the 86th Legislature convenes in January 2019

Recipient: Legislature

State Government

State Agency Digital Data Storage and Records Management Practices and the Associated Costs to Texas

(Department of Information Resources)

Legislation: [House Bill 8](#), Section 16

Description: Study conducted by the Department of Information Resources, in consultation with the Texas State Library and Archives Commission, on state agency digital data storage and records management practices and the associated costs to Texas. Study applies to an agency in the executive or judicial branch of state government that is created by the constitution or a statute of Texas. Report must include recommendations for reducing state costs and improving efficiency in digital data storage and records management.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2018

Recipients:

- Lieutenant governor
- Speaker of the house
- Appropriate standing committees of the senate and the house

Expiration Date: September 1, 2019

Transparency and Accountability of State Open-Government Laws

(Joint Interim Committee on Open-Government Laws)

Legislation: [Senate Concurrent Resolution 56](#)

Description: Examination of all state open-government laws, including the Texas Public Information Act, for opportunities to improve transparency and accountability. Bill requires a report on the joint interim committee's findings and recommendations.

Due Date: Before the 86th Legislature convenes in January 2019

Recipient: Legislature

Transportation

Elements of Vehicle Titling, Actions Related to Titling Such As Registration, and Inspection Programs That Can Be Eliminated

(Department of Public Safety and Texas Department of Motor Vehicles)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 2076](#), Section 27

Description: Study on the efficiency and necessity of the titling and inspection of vehicles in Texas to include a review of actions related to titling such as registration. Report must identify any elements of vehicle titling, including actions related to titling such as registration, and inspection programs that can be eliminated.

Due Date: Not later than December 31, 2018

Recipient: Legislature

Water

Purchase of Iron and Steel Products Made in the United States for Water Development Projects That Received Financial Assistance From TWDB

(State Auditor)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1289](#), Section 1

Description: Summary of the report submitted by the Texas Water Development Board to the state auditor on the purchase of iron and steel products made in the United States for each water development project that received financial assistance from the board. Report must also include the impacts on a political subdivision that obtained or applied for financial assistance from the board and any related bond information.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2019

Recipient: Legislature

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