



# INTERIM STUDIES

ESTABLISHED BY THE 87TH TEXAS LEGISLATURE

REGULAR, 2ND, AND 3RD CALLED SESSIONS | 2021



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If you have questions or comments regarding this publication, please contact Kellie Smith by phone at (512) 463-1155 or by email at [kellie.smith@tlc.texas.gov](mailto:kellie.smith@tlc.texas.gov).

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# FOREWORD

This publication catalogs interim studies and reports required by laws passed by the 87th Legislature, including [Senate Bill 1](#) (the General Appropriations Act). It primarily covers studies resulting in a one-time report to the legislature, a member or committee thereof, or a legislative agency, but it also includes new ongoing reports submitted to those entities. 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 broadly by subject area and, within each subject area, in bill order. For each 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 87th Legislature containing provisions requiring the study. If the entire bill relates to the study, a bill section is not specified. All bills 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, that is noted in this entry.

**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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# AGRICULTURE

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## Trade Agricultural Inspection Grant Program Performance Report (Department of Agriculture)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 1371](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, the Department of Agriculture must evaluate and report on the performance of the trade agricultural inspection grant program, which provides grants to nonprofit organizations for the promotion of the agricultural processing industry in Texas by reducing wait times for agricultural inspections of vehicles at ports of entry along the border with the United Mexican States. The report must contain an evaluation of agricultural inspections affected by the grant program, including the extent to which the program is reducing those wait times.

**Due Date:** Not later than January 15, 2025

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2025

---

## Report on Action Plans that Assist in Preventing the Introduction and Widespread Dissemination of New or Highly Consequential Plant Pests and Diseases in Texas (Department of Agriculture)

---

**Legislation:** [House Bill 2089](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** The Department of Agriculture (TDA) must establish a threat identification and mitigation program to determine and address threats to the domestic production of crops and, under the program, must implement action plans to assist in preventing the introduction and widespread dissemination of new or highly consequential plant pests and diseases in Texas. The TDA must submit an annual report on those action plans, including an accounting of money spent in connection with the plans.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1 of each year

**Recipients:** Committees of the house and the senate with primary jurisdiction over agriculture and rural affairs

---

## Report on the Experimental Use Program for Feral Hog Abatement (Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 8, Page III-237

**Description:** The Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service, in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture (TDA), must implement an experimental use program for the purpose of advising the TDA regarding pesticide products containing warfarin that are registered by the EPA for use to control feral hogs. The report must contain the results of the experimental use for each pesticide product evaluated under the program.

**Due Date:** Not later than August 31, 2023

**Recipients:**

- Legislature
- Department of Agriculture

---

## **Study and Report on Increasing Food Stores in Food Deserts** (Department of Agriculture)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 27, Page VI-10

**Description:** Study by the Department of Agriculture to determine methods to increase the number of grocery stores and other stores selling produce and other healthy foods in areas of Texas that currently lack access to those stores. The report must contain the findings and recommendations of the study.

**Due Date:** Not later than January 1, 2023

**Recipient:** Legislature

---

## **Study and Report on the Purpose and Objectives of the GO TEXAN Program** (Department of Agriculture)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 703](#), SECTION 58

**Description:** Study by the Department of Agriculture, in consultation with the Sunset Advisory Commission, on the purpose and objectives of the GO TEXAN program. The report must include the study's findings and recommendations to improve efficiency, fairness, accountability, effectiveness, stakeholder engagement, and public information as outlined by the Sunset Staff Report with Commission Decisions, as reported to the 87th Legislature.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 31, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Sunset Advisory Commission

# APPROPRIATIONS AND STATE FINANCE

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## Texas Permanent School Fund Corporation Audit Report

(Board of directors of the Texas Permanent School Fund Corporation)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1232](#), SECTION 1.06

**Description:** The bill authorizes the State Board of Education to incorporate the Texas Permanent School Fund Corporation and delegate to the corporation the board's authority to manage and invest the permanent school fund (PSF) and the charter district bond guarantee reserve fund. If the corporation is created, its board of directors must submit an annual audit report regarding the corporation's operations.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

**Recipient:** Legislative Budget Board

---

## Report Detailing Anticipated Transfer from Permanent School Fund to Available School Fund (Texas Permanent School Fund Corporation)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1232](#), SECTION 1.06

**Description:** The bill authorizes the State Board of Education to incorporate the Texas Permanent School Fund Corporation and delegate to the corporation the board's authority to manage and invest the permanent school fund (PSF) and the charter district bond guarantee reserve fund. If the corporation is created, it must submit a biennial report that in detail specifically states the date a transfer will be made and the amount that the corporation will transfer during the subsequent state fiscal biennium from the PSF to the available school fund.

**Due Date:** Not later than November 1 of each even-numbered year

**Recipients:**

- Legislature
  - Comptroller of public accounts
  - State Board of Education
  - Legislative Budget Board
- 

## Report on Texas Opioid Abatement Fund Council Expenditures

(Texas Opioid Abatement Fund Council)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1827](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Annual report by the Texas opioid abatement fund council, which is created by the bill to ensure that money recovered by the state through a statewide opioid settlement agreement

is allocated fairly and spent to remediate the opioid crisis in Texas. The report must detail all expenditures made by the council during the preceding state fiscal year.

**Due Date:** Not later than October 1 of each year

**Recipient:** Legislature

---

## List of Financial Companies that Boycott Energy Companies (Comptroller of Public Accounts)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 13](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** A list of all financial companies boycotting energy companies that the comptroller of public accounts is required to prepare, maintain, and provide to each applicable public retirement system and the permanent school fund to facilitate each such entity's divestment of assets invested in those companies. The comptroller must update the list annually or more often as the comptroller considers necessary, but not more often than quarterly.

**Due Date:** Not later than the 30th day after the date the list is first provided or updated

**Recipients:**

- Presiding officer of each house of the legislature
- Attorney general

---

## Report of Assets Divested from Financial Companies that Boycott Energy Companies (Applicable public retirement systems and the permanent school fund)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 13](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Annual report from each state governmental entity subject to the bill's provisions regarding divestment from financial companies that boycott energy companies. Those entities include the Employees Retirement System of Texas and any retirement system administered by that system; the Teacher Retirement System of Texas; the Texas Municipal Retirement System; the Texas County and District Retirement System; the Texas Emergency Services Retirement System; and the permanent school fund. The report must include the following information:

- an identification of all securities sold, redeemed, divested, or withdrawn from financial companies that boycott energy companies;
- an identification of all securities of a boycotting company that the entity has acquired; and
- a summarization of any changes made with regard to any indirect holdings in actively or passively managed investment funds or private equity funds that are exempted from the required divestment in boycotting companies.

**Due Date:** Not later than January 5 of each year

**Recipients:**

- Presiding officer of each house of the legislature
- Attorney general

---

## Report on a Delay in the Scheduled Divestment from Financial Companies that Boycott Energy Companies

(Applicable public retirement systems and the permanent school fund)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 13](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Report to be submitted by an applicable public retirement system or the permanent school fund if that entity delays the schedule for divestment from financial companies that boycott energy companies as required by the bill. The report must state the reasons and justification for delaying divestment and include documentation supporting its determination that the divestment would result in a loss in asset value or a benchmark deviation in an individual portfolio, including objective numerical estimates. The report must be updated every six months. The public retirement systems subject to this reporting requirement are the Employees Retirement System of Texas and any retirement system administered by that system; the Teacher Retirement System of Texas; the Texas Municipal Retirement System; the Texas County and District Retirement System; and the Texas Emergency Services Retirement System.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

**Recipients:**

- Presiding officer of each house of the legislature
- Attorney general

---

## Report on the Cessation of Divestment from Financial Companies that Boycott Energy Companies

(Applicable public retirement systems and the permanent school fund)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 13](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Report to be submitted by an applicable public retirement system or the permanent school fund before ceasing divestment from a financial company that boycotts energy companies as required by the bill. The report must set forth the reason and justification, supported by clear and convincing evidence, for deciding to cease divestment or to remain invested in a boycotting financial company. The report must be updated semiannually, as applicable. The public retirement systems subject to this reporting requirement are the Employees Retirement System of Texas and any retirement system administered by that system; the Teacher Retirement System of Texas; the Texas Municipal Retirement System; the Texas County and District Retirement System; and the Texas Emergency Services Retirement System.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

**Recipients:**

- Comptroller of public accounts
- Presiding officer of each house of the legislature
- Attorney General



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**The following entries also related to appropriations and state finance are included in the indicated chapters:**

- Review of Oil and Gas Regulation and Cleanup Fund Revenue Streams (Environment)
- Report and Recommendations Regarding the State Funding Formula and Funding Levels for Public Junior Colleges in Texas (Higher Education)
- Study and Report on Comprehensive Regional University Funding (Higher Education)
- Report Evaluating Effect of Sales and Use Tax Refund Pilot Program for Certain Persons Who Employ Apprentices (Labor and Employment)
- Report of Recommendations Addressing Special Education Funding (Public Education)

# COURTS

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## Report on Complaints Filed with the SCJC Not Finalized by a Certain Deadline (State Commission on Judicial Conduct)

---

**Legislation:** [House Bill 4344](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** Annual report by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct (SCJC) that contains the total number of complaints SCJC failed to finalize not later than the 270th day following the date the complaint was filed with SCJC and the total number of those complaints that SCJC declined to further investigate because of a law enforcement agency investigation.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1 of each year

**Recipient:** Legislature

---

## Report on Statutory Changes to Improve the SCJC Complaint Process (State Commission on Judicial Conduct)

---

**Legislation:** [House Bill 4344](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** Report by the State Commission on Judicial Conduct (SCJC) regarding any statutory changes that would improve its effectiveness, efficiency, and transparency in filing, investigating, and processing any complaint filed with the SCJC.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

**Recipient:** 88th Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

---

## Study and Report on Protective Order Enforcement (Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System)

---

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

**Description:** Study by the Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System (OCA) of different mechanisms of protective order enforcement used in a representative selection of Texas counties. OCA must also identify best practices for a statewide model of effective and efficient protective order enforcement. The report must include the findings of the study.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipients:** Permanent committees of the house and the senate with jurisdiction over criminal justice and public safety

---

## Report on the Number of Defendants in the Preceding State Fiscal Year for Whom Bail Was Set After Arrest

(Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 6](#) (2nd Called Session), SECTION 5

**Description:** The Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System (OCA) must develop and maintain a public safety report system that, among other uses, collects and maintains information provided on a bail form. OCA must use the information to collect data from the preceding state fiscal year regarding the number of defendants for whom bail was set after arrest, including the number for each category of offense, the number of personal bonds, and the number of monetary bonds. The report must contain that defendant data.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1 of each year

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Presiding officers of the standing committees of each house of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over the judiciary

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## Report Regarding Charitable Bail Organization Activities

(Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 6](#) (2nd Called Session), SECTION 9

**Description:** Annual report by the Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System (OCA) regarding the information on charitable bail organizations submitted to OCA by county sheriffs for the preceding state fiscal year. The information to be submitted by sheriffs includes:

- the following information regarding defendants for whom a charitable bail organization paid a bail bond:
  - the name of the defendant;
  - the cause number of the case;
  - the county in which the applicable charge is pending, if different from the county in which the bond was paid; and
  - any dates on which the defendant has failed to appear in court as required for the charge for which the bond was paid; and
- any suspension of a charitable bail organization from paying bail bonds that is based on the organization's payment of one or more bonds in violation of state law, as applicable.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1 of each year

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor

- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Presiding officers of the standing committees of each house of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over the judiciary

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## **Report on Certain Statistics Regarding Defendants Released on Bail or Community Supervision**

(Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 6](#) (2nd Called Session), SECTION 16

**Description:** The clerk of each court setting bail in criminal cases must report the following data as a component of a monthly statistical report submitted to the Office of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System (OCA):

- the number of defendants for whom bail was set after arrest, including the number for each category of offense, the number of personal bonds, and the number of surety or cash bonds;
- the number of defendants released on bail who subsequently failed to appear;
- the number of defendants released on bail who subsequently violated a condition of release; and
- the number of defendants who committed an offense while released on bail or community supervision.

OCA must submit an annual report containing the data collected during the preceding state fiscal year.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1 of each year

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Presiding officers of the standing committees of each house of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over the judiciary

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# CORRECTIONS

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## **Report Related to the Confinement in County Jail of Persons with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities** (Advisory committee on matters related to the confinement in county jail of persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 2831](#), SECTIONS 1 and 5

**Description:** Biennial report by the advisory committee established under the bill to advise the Commission on Jail Standards and make recommendations on matters related to the confinement in county jail of persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities. The report must include recommendations for legislative or other action related to such confinement.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year beginning in 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Each standing committee of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over the Commission on Jail Standards

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## **Report on County Jail Intake Processes with Respect to Persons with Intellectual or Developmental Disabilities** (Commission on Jail Standards)

---

**Legislation:** [House Bill 2831](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** The Commission on Jail Standards (TCJS), with the assistance of the advisory committee on matters related to the confinement in county jail of persons with intellectual or developmental disabilities (IDDs) established under the bill, must monitor the intake processes in county jails to assess each county jail's ability to properly identify persons with IDD and must assist county jails in improving the intake processes with respect to such persons. TCJS, with the advisory committee's assistance, must prepare and submit a report that includes a discussion of any deficiencies in the intake processes that have been identified by TCJS and recommendations to improve county jail practices regarding identifying persons with IDD.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives

- Each standing committee of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over the Commission on Jail Standards
- Each sheriff

**Expiration Date:** January 1, 2023

---

## **Report on Pregnant Inmates Incarcerated in Texas Department of Criminal Justice Facilities (Texas Department of Criminal Justice)**

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 61, Page V-21

**Description:** Report from the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) on pregnant people incarcerated in TDCJ facilities. The report must include the following information:

- the number of incarcerated women admitted annually;
- the number of pregnant people admitted annually;
- the date, time, duration, rationale, and location of the use of restraints on incarcerated pregnant people;
- the number of incarcerated pregnant people diagnosed and treated for intellectual and developmental disorders or behavioral health issues; and
- the number of births given during incarceration.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

# CULTURE, RECREATION, AND TOURISM

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## **Study and Report on Antisemitism in Texas**

(Texas Holocaust, Genocide, and Antisemitism Advisory Commission)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 3257](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Biennial study on antisemitism in Texas to be conducted under direction of the Texas Historical Commission by the Texas Holocaust, Genocide, and Antisemitism Advisory Commission, which is established by the bill as an advisory commission to the Texas Historical Commission. The report must contain the results of the study.

**Due Date:** Not later than November 1 of each even-numbered year

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Legislature

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## **Report on the Progress of Implementing House Bill 3257, Relating to the Creation of the Texas Holocaust, Genocide, and Antisemitism Advisory Commission** (Texas Historical Commission and the Texas Holocaust, Genocide, and Antisemitism Advisory Commission)

---

**Legislation:** [House Bill 3257](#), SECTION 5

**Description:** Report by the Texas Historical Commission and the Texas Holocaust, Genocide, and Antisemitism Advisory Commission, which is established by the bill as an advisory commission to the Texas Historical Commission, on their progress in implementing the changes in law made by the bill. The report must identify any obstacles or concerns encountered in implementing the changes.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Sunset Advisory Commission

---

## **Study and Report on the Optimum Water Level at Falcon Lake** (Texas Parks and Wildlife Department)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 39, Page VI-46

**Description:** Study conducted by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) in collaboration with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to determine the optimum water level at



Falcon Lake for recreational fishing and the factors that contribute to the rise and fall in water levels. TPWD must submit a report containing the findings of the study and recommendations on how to maintain that optimum water level.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives

---

## **Study and Report on the Creation of Trails in Texas** (Texas Parks and Wildlife Department)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 40, Page VI-46

**Description:** Joint study conducted by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD), Texas Historical Commission, and Texas Department of Transportation to determine the potential for historic, scenic, and/or recreational trails to be created in Texas and to identify potential partners to promote local and regional preservation efforts related to the trails studied. TPWD must provide a report for the study.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislative Budget Board

# ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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## **Study and Report on Colonias and Colonia Initiatives** (Joint Interim Committee on Colonias and Colonia Initiatives)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 1301](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** Study by the joint interim committee established by the bill to study colonias and colonia initiatives in Texas. In conducting the study, the committee must do the following:

- determine the best methods for updating and maintaining colonia identification systems and for identifying and classifying colonias in which the highest public health risks exist;
- consider whether colonias should be defined uniformly across all relevant state agencies and whether that definition should include certain essential metrics;
- assess best practices and funding needs for surveying the services and infrastructure available in, and demographics of, each colonia;
- assess the status of state agency tracking and reporting of state-funded colonia projects and whether improvements are necessary;
- determine and assess any non-infrastructure needs within colonias and options for the state to address those needs; and
- assess the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on colonias and whether additional state services are necessary to address those impacts.

The report must include the committee's findings and any legislative recommendations.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Legislature

**Expiration Date:** November 1, 2022

---

## **Report on Expansion of the Blockchain Industry in Texas** (Workgroup on Blockchain Matters)

---

**Legislation:** [House Bill 1576](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** The bill creates the workgroup on blockchain matters to develop a master plan for the expansion of the blockchain industry in Texas and recommend policies and state investments in connection with blockchain technology. In developing the master plan, the work group must do the following:

- identify economic growth and development opportunities presented by blockchain technology;
- assess the existing blockchain industry in Texas;
- review workforce needs and academic programs required to build blockchain expertise across all relevant industries; and

- make any legislative recommendations that will help promote innovation and economic growth by reducing barriers to and expediting the expansion of the state’s blockchain industry. The report must include the master plan and any applicable findings and recommendations.

**Due Date:** Not later than October 31, 2022

**Recipients:** Standing committees of the house and the senate with primary jurisdiction over economic development or technology issues

**Expiration Date:** June 30, 2023

---

## Study and Report on Land Banks (Joint Interim Committee to Study Land Banks)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1679](#), SECTION 4

**Description:** Study by a joint interim committee created by the bill regarding the following topics:

- powers of land banks to acquire and dispose of real property;
- impacts of land banks on flood reduction, storm water retention and drainage, and storm resiliency;
- impacts of land banks on affordable housing, workforce housing, or public service housing;
- funding mechanisms of land banks;
- impacts of land banks on tax base from properties conveyed by a land bank; and
- land banks, including land bank enabling legislation, from other states.

The report must summarize the study’s results, including any legislative recommendations for changes to state law governing the Houston Land Bank that may appear necessary or advisable based on those results.

**Due Date:** Not later than January 15, 2023

**Recipients:**

- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Governor

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

---

**The following entries also related to economic development are included in the indicated chapters:**

- [Study and Report on Increasing Food Stores in Food Deserts \(Agriculture\)](#)
- [Status Report on the Micro-Business Disaster Recovery Loan Program \(Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery\)](#)
- [Report on the Small Business Disaster Recovery Program \(Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery\)](#)
- [Status Report on Micro-Business Disaster Recovery Loan Guarantee Program \(Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery\)](#)

# ELECTIONS

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## Report on Gifts, Grants, and Donations Accepted for Purpose of Administering Elections in Texas (Secretary of State)

---

**Legislation:** [House Bill 2283](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** Biennial report from the secretary of state that includes a detailed summary of any gifts, grants, or donations accepted by the secretary of state to perform a function of administering elections and the manner in which those amounts were expended in the administration of an election.

**Due Date:** Not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives

---

## Report on Election Code Enforcement Litigation (Attorney General)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 36, Page I-12

**Description:** Report from the attorney general on the amount of money spent during the previous two fiscal years on litigation related to the enforcement of the Election Code.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 31, 2022

**Recipients:**

- House Appropriations Committee
- Senate Committee on Finance

---

## Report on Risk-Limiting Election Audit Pilot Program (Secretary of State)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 598](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** The secretary of state must conduct a pilot program in at least five counties, beginning with the election taking place November 8, 2022, of the risk-limiting audit program created by the bill. After each election conducted under the pilot program, the secretary of state must submit a detailed report evaluating the success of the program and making a recommendation as to whether the legislature should act to delay the program's statewide implementation.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** August 31, 2026

---

## Study and Report on Feasibility of Requiring State Voting Systems to be Manufactured, Stored, and Held in the United States (Secretary of State)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1387](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** Comprehensive study by the secretary of state to determine the feasibility of requiring each voting system used in an election in Texas to have all components of the system, including software and hardware, manufactured, stored, and held in the United States. The report must summarize the study's findings.

**Due Date:** Not later than January 1, 2023

**Recipient:** Legislature

---

## Report of Voter Registrations Canceled Because of Citizenship Status (Secretary of State)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#) (2nd Called Session), SECTION 2.05

**Description:** Annual report from the secretary of state of the number of voter registrations canceled because of citizenship status during the calendar year.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 31 of each year

**Recipient:** Legislature

---

## Study and Report on the Implementation of Educational Programs to Help Voters with Disabilities Understand How to Use Voting Systems Used in Texas (Secretary of State)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#) (2nd Called Session), SECTION 6.08

**Description:** Study and report by the secretary of state regarding the implementation of educational programs, including the production and publication on the secretary of state's website of instructional videos, to help voters with disabilities understand how to use voting systems used in Texas. The secretary of state, using existing resources, may contract with a qualified vendor to conduct the study.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:** Standing committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over elections

**Expiration Date:** December 1, 2023

# EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND DISASTER RECOVERY

---

## Study and Report on Mitigation of Catastrophic Weather Events (Railroad Commission of Texas)

---

**Legislation:** [House Bill 1520](#), SECTION 5

**Description:** Study by the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) on measures to mitigate catastrophic weather events, including measures to do the following:

- establish natural gas storage capacity to ensure a reliable gas study;
- assess the advantages and disadvantages of requiring local distribution companies to use hedging tactics to avoid volatile customer rates; and
- assess the advantages and disadvantages of prohibiting spot market purchases during a catastrophic weather event that contribute to volatile customer rates.

The report must contain the RRC's findings from the study.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives

**Expiration Date:** August 31, 2023

---

## Report on the Effects of Authorizing Transmission and Distribution Utilities to Lease, Operate, Procure, or Own Facilities to Aid in Restoring Power During or Following a Widespread Power Outage (Public Utility Commission of Texas)

---

**Legislation:** [House Bill 2483](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** The Public Utility Commission of Texas must analyze the effects of the temporary authorization, set to expire September 1, 2029, for transmission and distribution utilities to do the following:

- lease and operate facilities that provide temporary emergency electric energy to aid in restoring power to the utility's distribution customers during a widespread power outage in which the independent system operator has ordered the utility to shed load or in which the utility's distribution facilities are not being fully served by the bulk power system under normal operations; and
- procure, own, and operate transmission and distribution facilities that have a lead time of at least six months and would aid in restoring power to the utility's distribution customers following widespread power outage.

The report must include the analysis and a recommendation of whether the legislature should allow the authorization to expire.

**Due Date:** Not later than January 1, 2029

**Recipient:** Legislature

---

## **Status Report on the Micro-Business Disaster Recovery Loan Program (Texas Economic Development Bank)**

---

**Legislation:** [House Bill 3271](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Annual status report prepared by the Texas Economic Development Bank on the micro-business disaster recovery loan program established by the bill under which the bank must provide zero interest loans to eligible community development financial institutions for purposes of making interest-bearing loans to qualifying micro-businesses that have difficulty in accessing capital following a declared disaster. The Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office must include a summary of the report in its annual status report to the legislature on the bank's activities.

**Due Date:** No specific due date for the bank's report stated, however the office's annual status report is due on or before January 1 of each year

**Recipients:** No specific recipients for the bank's report stated; the office's annual status report is submitted to the legislature

---

## **Report on the Results of an Audit of Local Emergency Communication Systems (State Auditor)**

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 10, Page III-251

**Description:** Report from the state auditor on the results of an audit examining emergency communications systems and their utilization by Texas counties, municipalities, independent school districts, special purpose districts, other local government entities, and utilities during the five-year period from calendar years 2017-2021. The audit must provide a broad and comprehensive review of the policies, practices, and capabilities of such entities regarding emergency communications, as well as an evaluation of the emergency communications tools available to those entities and their effectiveness and limitation in reaching the desired audience in an effective and timely fashion.

**Due Date:** Not later than November 1, 2022

**Recipients:** Members of the legislature who sit on a committee with oversight responsibility for any entity or program that is the subject of any portion of the report

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## **Power Weatherization Preparedness Report (Public Utility Commission of Texas)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 3](#), SECTION 24

**Description:** Biennial power weatherization preparedness report from the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC). In preparing the report, the PUC must do the following:

- review emergency operations plans on file with the PUC from electric utilities, power generation companies, municipally owned utilities, electric cooperatives, and retail electric providers;
- analyze and determine the ability of the electric grid to withstand extreme weather events in the upcoming year;
- consider the anticipated weather patterns for the upcoming year as forecasted by the National Weather Service or any similar state or national agency; and
- make recommendations on improving emergency operations plans and procedures in order to ensure the continuity of electric service.

The PUC must require an applicable entity to file an updated emergency operations plan if the PUC finds that the entity's existing plan does not contain adequate information to determine whether the entity can provide adequate electric services.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 30 of each even-numbered year

**Recipients:**

- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Legislature

## Natural Gas Facilities Weatherization Preparedness Report (Railroad Commission of Texas)

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 3](#), SECTION 25

**Description:** Biennial report from the Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) on weatherization preparedness of facilities that produce, treat, process, pressurize, store, or transport natural gas and are included on the electricity supply chain map created by the Texas Electricity Supply Chain Security and Mapping Committee. In preparing the report, the RRC must do the following:

- review any emergency operations plans on file with the RRC from the operators of such facilities;
- analyze and determine the ability of the electricity supply chain to withstand extreme weather events in the upcoming year;
- consider the anticipated weather patterns for the upcoming year as forecasted by the National Weather Service or any similar state or national agency; and
- make recommendations on improving emergency operations plans and procedures in order to ensure the continuity of natural gas service for the electricity supply chain.

The RRC must require a facility to file an updated emergency operations plan if the RRC finds that the facility's existing plan does not contain adequate information to determine whether the facility can provide adequate natural gas services.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 30 of each even-numbered year

**Recipients:**

- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Legislature



---

## Report on the Small Business Disaster Recovery Loan Program (Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 678](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, the Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office (TEDTO) must establish a small business disaster recovery loan program under which money from a revolving fund is used for the purpose of providing financial assistance to small businesses in response to a gubernatorial disaster declaration. TEDTO must submit a biennial program report that includes the fund balance, the total dollar amount of disbursements from the fund during the preceding two years, and a general description of each small business that was awarded a loan during the preceding two years.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Legislature

---

## Study and Report on the State Response to COVID-19 (Preparedness Coordinating Council Advisory Committee)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 968](#), SECTION 18

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, study by the Preparedness Coordinating Council advisory committee, in coordination with the Emergency Management Council, on the state's response to COVID-19. The advisory committee must examine the roles of the Department of State Health Services, the Health and Human Services Commission, and the Texas Division of Emergency Management relating to public health disaster and emergency planning and response efforts and determine the efficacy of the state emergency operations plan in appropriately identifying agency responsibilities. The report must include the study results and recommendations for legislative improvements for public health disaster and public health emergency response and preparedness.

**Due Date:** Not later than nine months after the date the declared public health disaster related to COVID-19 is terminated or September 1, 2023, whichever is earlier

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

---

## Status Report on Micro-Business Disaster Recovery Loan Guarantee Program (Texas Economic Development Bank)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1465](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, the Texas Economic Development Bank must establish and administer a micro-business disaster recovery loan guarantee program through which the bank guarantees loans made by participating financial institutions to micro-businesses that have suffered economic injury as a result of a declared disaster. The bank must submit an annual status report on the program's activities.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

**Recipient:** Legislature

---

**The following entries also related to emergency management and disaster recovery are included in the indicated chapters:**

- [Survey on Long-Term Care Facilities Equipped with an Emergency Power Source \(Health and Human Services\)](#)
- [Evaluation and Plan Related to the State Health Care System's Capability to Respond to Public Health Threats \(Health and Human Services\)](#)
- [Report Evaluating Public Health Regions and Regional Offices \(Health and Human Services\)](#)
- [Report on Data Collection and Reporting During a Public Health Disaster \(Health and Human Services\)](#)
- [Study and Report on Load Shed Protocols \(Utilities\)](#)
- [Report on the Implementation of Designation and Prioritization Requirements Regarding Certain Critical Natural Gas Facilities and Entities \(Utilities\)](#)
- [Report on the Reliability and Stability of the Electricity Supply Chain in Texas \(Utilities\)](#)
- [Report on the Activities and Findings of the Texas Electricity Supply Chain Security and Mapping Committee \(Utilities\)](#)

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# ENVIRONMENT

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## Report on the TexNet Seismic Monitoring Program (TexNet Technical Advisory Committee and The University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 632](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Joint report on the TexNet seismic monitoring program from the TexNet Technical Advisory Committee, which is established by the bill within The University of Texas Bureau of Economic Geology, and the bureau itself. The report must include a review of the use of any funds appropriated for the program by the legislature, 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:** Not later than December 31 of each even-numbered year

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives

---

## Study and Report on Abandoned Oil and Gas Wells in Texas and the Use of the Oil and Gas Regulation and Cleanup Fund (Joint Interim Committee to Study Abandoned Oil and Gas Wells in Texas and the Use of the Oil and Gas Regulation and Cleanup Fund)

---

**Legislation:** [House Bill 3973](#)

**Description:** The bill creates a joint interim committee to study abandoned oil and gas wells in Texas and the use of the oil and gas regulation and cleanup (OGRC) fund. Specifically, the committee must do the following:

- study matters related to abandoned oil and gas wells in Texas, including the costs associated with plugging abandoned wells and bonding requirements imposed on owners or operators of oil and gas wells;
- identify potential solutions to reduce the need for general revenue spending to plug abandoned wells;
- conduct a review of the OGRC fund; and
- evaluate and identify other sources of potential revenue, including federal funds and other existing taxes and fees paid to the benefit of the state which could be utilized to meet the joint interim committee's goals.

The report must contain the committee's findings and recommendations.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** January 1, 2023

---

## Review of Oil and Gas Regulation and Cleanup Fund Revenue Streams (Railroad Commission of Texas)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 16, Page VI-52

**Description:** The Railroad Commission of Texas (RRC) must conduct a review of the different sources that contribute revenues into the oil and gas regulation and cleanup fund, as well as expected revenues going forward through 2025 based on its existing fee and fine structure, and review both their rules and statutory caps that determine the amount of those fees and fines. The RRC must present the information discovered and make recommendations about any regulatory or statutory changes needed to ensure adequate revenues for the RRC. The assessment must examine both well bonding and fine levels, as well as permit fees.

**Due Date:** Review must be conducted on or before September 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislative Budget Board

# FAMILY LAW

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## Preparation for Adult Living (PAL) Program Credit Assurance Plan (Department of Family and Protective Services)

---

**Legislation:** [House Bill 700](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** The Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS), in coordination with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, must establish a work group to develop a plan to ensure that foster youth who complete the standardized curriculum for the Preparation for Adult Living (PAL) Program are eligible to receive college credit for completing the program. DFPS must report the plan that is developed by the work group.

**Due Date:** Not later than November 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

---

## Report on the Family Preservation Services Pilot Program (Independent entity contracted by the Department of Family and Protective Services)

---

**Legislation:** [House Bill 3041](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** The Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) must establish a pilot program that allows DFPS to dispose of an investigation by referring the family of a child who is a candidate for foster care for family preservation services and allowing the child to return home instead of entering foster care or by providing services to a pregnant or parenting foster youth. Not later than the first anniversary of the date the pilot program commences and every two years thereafter, DFPS must contract with an independent entity based in Texas to evaluate the implementation of the pilot program, assess its progress, and report its findings. The report must include the following:

- a detailed description of the actions taken by DFPS to ensure the pilot program's successful implementation;
- a detailed analysis of the roles certain entities have in the pilot program;
- an analysis of any barrier to the pilot program's successful implementation and recommendations for overcoming those barriers;
- data on specified performance-based outcomes achieved in the child protective services region in which the pilot program is implemented;
- a detailed comparison of outcomes achieved in the child protective services region in which the pilot program is implemented with outcomes achieved in other child protective services regions;
- a detailed description of the costs of the pilot program and services provided; and
- recommendations on whether to expand pilot program services to other child protective services regions in Texas based on the pilot program's outcomes and performance.

**Due Date:** No due date specified

**Recipients:** Appropriate standing committees of the legislature having jurisdiction over child protective services and foster care matters

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## **Report on Community-Based Care Random Moment Time Study** (Department of Family and Protective Services)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 46, Page II-18

**Description:** Report from the Department of Family and Protective Services on the results of its random moment time study for community-based care.

**Due Date:** On conclusion of the study

**Recipients:**

- Legislative Budget Board
- Governor
- House Appropriations Committee
- Senate Committee on Finance
- House Human Services Committee
- Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
- Any standing joint legislative oversight committees, as appropriate

---

## **Study on Child Protective Services Capacity** (Department of Family and Protective Services)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 49, Page II-19

**Description:** Study by the Department of Family and Protective Services to review the current child protective services capacity. The study must offer recommendations on how to improve capacity and recommendations on where capacity can be improved by geographic area.

**Due Date:** Not later than November 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Legislative Budget Board
- Governor
- House Appropriations Committee
- Senate Committee on Finance
- House Human Services Committee
- Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
- Any standing joint legislative oversight committees, as appropriate

---

## Study on Transportation Options and Needs for Children and Parents Involved in the Foster Care System (Department of Family and Protective Services)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 50, Page II-19

**Description:** Study by the Department of Family and Protective Services to determine the transportation options available and needs for children and parents involved in the foster care system in order to improve reunification outcomes.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Legislative Budget Board
- Governor
- House Appropriations Committee
- Senate Committee on Finance
- House Human Services Committee
- Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
- Any standing joint legislative oversight committees, as appropriate

---

## Reports on Proposed Alternative Reimbursement Methodology for Foster Care and Community-Based Care (Department of Family and Protective Services)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 26(d), Page II-109

**Description:** The Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) must develop, with the assistance of the Health and Human Services Commission, an alternative reimbursement methodology proposal for the 88th Legislature for foster care and community-based care rates. DFPS must submit an initial report that details the preliminary new service descriptions upon which the new rate methodology will be based, followed by a report detailing the final service descriptions. Subsequent semi-annual progress reports of all related DFPS activities must then be submitted every six months beginning on February 28, 2022.

**Due Dates:** Not later than September 30, 2021 (preliminary new service description report) and not later than January 1, 2022 (final service description report)

**Recipients:**

- Legislative Budget Board
- Governor
- Chair of the House Appropriations Committee
- Chair of the Senate Committee on Finance
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Lieutenant Governor
- Permanent standing committees in the house and the senate with jurisdiction over health and human services
- Health and Human Services Commission



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## Plan and Reports Regarding the Development of Pro Forma Modeled Rates and Cost-Report Based Rates for Foster Care and Community-Based Care (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 26(e), Page II-109

**Description:** The Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) must submit a plan for the development of pro forma modeled rates and cost-report based rates for foster care and community-based care, using certain service descriptions detailed by the rider, including key milestones and identified interagency dependencies, and for the implementation of all other recommendations related to reimbursement rate methodologies made in the report entitled “Foster Care Methodology as required by the 2020-21 General Appropriations Act, House Bill 1, 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019 (Article II, Special Provisions Relating to All Health and Human Services Agencies, Section 32).”

HHSC must submit a report that includes the pro forma modeled rates using the new reimbursement methodology developed by the Department of Family and Protective Services and the fiscal estimate of implementing such rates, followed by a report on the feasibility of increasing federal funds for use in providing the services upon which the methodology is based. HHSC must also submit semi-annual progress reports of all related HHSC activities every six months beginning on February 28, 2022.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 30, 2021 (plan); not later than December 1, 2022 (report detailing the pro forma modeled rates); and not later than February 1, 2023 (federal funding feasibility report)

**Recipients:**

- Legislative Budget Board
- Governor
- Chair of the House Appropriations Committee
- Chair of the Senate Committee on Finance
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Lieutenant Governor
- Permanent standing committees in the house and senate with jurisdiction over health and human services
- Department of Family and Protective Services

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## Study of Options for Implementing Family Preservation Services (Department of Family and Protective Services)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 910](#), SECTIONS 1 and 3

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) must conduct a study and develop a comprehensive list of options for implementing family preservation services in existing catchment areas. DFPS must submit copies of those options along with any associated recommendations.

**Due Date:** Not later than October 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- House Appropriations Committee
- Senate Committee on Finance
- House Human Services Committee
- Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

**Expiration Date:** August 31, 2023

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**Study and Report on Residential Treatment Center Placement**  
(Supreme Court of Texas Children’s Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1575](#), SECTION 3

**Description:** The Supreme Court of Texas Children’s Commission, in collaboration with the Department of Family and Protective Services, must establish and oversee a work group to examine the oversight of and best practices related to residential treatment center placements. The work group must consider topics and changes to current practices the work group determines necessary to ensure the appropriate use of and to improve the transition into and out of residential treatment center placements. The report must include the work group’s findings and recommendations.

**Due Date:** Not later than October 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

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**Report Regarding an Evaluation of the Forensic Assessment Center Network**  
(Department of Family and Protective Services)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1578](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** The Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS), with the assistance of the Supreme Court of Texas Children’s Commission, must evaluate the use of the Forensic Assessment Center Network by DFPS and develop joint recommendations to improve the evaluation of agreements between DFPS and the network and the best practices for using assessments provided by the network in connection with DFPS abuse and neglect investigations. The report must contain DFPS’s findings and recommendations and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

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## Report Regarding the Feasibility of Designing a Volunteer Mentor Program for Children in Congregate Care Settings

(Department of Family and Protective Services)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1896](#), SECTION 4

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) and each single source continuum contractor in Texas, in collaboration with local governmental entities and faith- and community-based organizations, must examine the feasibility of designing a volunteer mentor program for children in congregate care settings. The report must contain DFPS's findings and recommendations for establishing a mentor program.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 31, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

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## Joint Legislative Oversight Committee Report Regarding the Implementation of Community-Based Care

(Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Community-Based Care Transition)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1896](#), SECTION 12

**Description:** The Joint Legislative Oversight Committee on Community-Based Care Transition, which is established by the bill, must monitor and report on the following topics related to the implementation of community-based care in the state foster care system:

- the funding of community-based care;
- the performance and outcomes of community-based care statewide and by region;
- statutory or regulatory barriers to the successful implementation of community-based care; and
- other challenges to the successful implementation of community-based care.

The report must contain the committee's findings and recommendations.

**Due Date:** Not later than January 1 of each odd-numbered year

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Each member of the standing committees of the house and the senate having primary jurisdiction over child welfare issues

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## Quarterly Reports Regarding Implementation of Community-Based Care (Office of Community-Based Care Transition)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1896](#), SECTION 12

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, reports by the Office of Community-Based Care Transition created by the bill for purposes of, among other duties, assessing catchment areas in Texas where community-based care services may be implemented; developing a plan for implementing community-based care in each catchment area in Texas; evaluating community-based care providers; and measuring contract performance and providing contract oversight of community-based care providers. The office must report at least once each calendar quarter regarding the implementation of community-based care in Texas.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

**Recipients:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** The date that community-based care is implemented in the last Department of Family and Protective Services region in Texas.

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## Study and Report on Permanency Care Assistance Benefits (Department of Family and Protective Services)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1896](#), SECTION 30

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, the Department of Family and Protective Services must do the following:

- study extending permanency care assistance benefits to individuals who are not relatives of a foster child and who do not have a longstanding and significant relationship with the foster child before the child enters foster care; and
- assess the potential impact and favorable permanency outcomes for children who might otherwise remain in foster care for long periods or have managing conservatorship of the child transferred without any benefits to the caregiver.

The report must contain the results of both the study and the assessment, as well as recommendations for further action.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 31, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

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## Report on DFPS Efforts to Improve Foster Care Capacity (Department of Family and Protective Services)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 5](#) (2nd Called Session), SECTION 11

**Description:** The bill appropriates money to the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) for purposes of improving foster care capacity. DFPS must prepare a report on the specific efforts that it has implemented with the money and the effect of those efforts on improving foster care capacity across Texas.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Legislative Budget Board
- Senate Committee on Finance
- House Appropriations Committee
- Each standing committee of the house and the senate with primary jurisdiction over health and human services

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**The following entries also related to family law are included in the Health and Human Services chapter:**

- [Report on the Results of an Efficiency Audit of DFPS and Recommendations for Efficiency Improvements](#)
- [Report Regarding Medical Review of Medicaid Service Denials for Foster Care Youth](#)
- [Update to Report on Suicide and Suicide Prevention](#)
- [Report Evaluating Benefits Used Under the Medicaid Program in the STAR Health Program Offered to Children in Foster Care](#)

# HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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## Report on the Prescription Drug Savings Program for Certain Uninsured Individuals (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 18](#), SECTIONS 2 and 5

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) must establish a prescription drug savings program that partners with a pharmacy benefit manager to offer prescription drugs at a discounted rate to certain uninsured individuals. HHSC must provide an annual program report that includes a line-item list of all program administrative costs incurred by HHSC, the amount of the pharmacy benefit manager and third-party administrator fees, the aggregate amounts of rebates anticipated and received for the program, and other program expenditures as HHSC determines appropriate.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1 of each year beginning in 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Standing committees of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over the program

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## Study and Report on Post-Rebate Insulin Provided Under the Prescription Drug Savings Program for Certain Uninsured Individuals (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 18](#), SECTION 3

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, study by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) on the development and implementation of the prescription drug savings program established by the bill in providing post-rebate insulin to program enrollees. HHSC must determine the effectiveness of the program in providing insulin-related services to uninsured individuals in Texas and any legislative recommendations for improvements to the program. The report must contain the results of the study, which has to include at least six months of information on use by and cost to enrollees for prescription insulin.

**Due Date:** Not later than February 14, 2023

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Standing committees of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over the Health and Human Services Commission

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## **General Study and Report on Post-Rebate Prescription Drugs Provided Under the Prescription Drugs Savings Program for Certain Uninsured Individuals** (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 18](#), SECTION 4

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, study by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) on the development and implementation of the prescription drug savings program established by the bill in providing all of the post-rebate formulary of prescription drugs to program enrollees. HHSC must determine the effectiveness of the program in providing prescription drug-related services to uninsured individuals in Texas and any legislative recommendations for improvements to the program. The report must contain the results of the study, which has to include at least one year of information on use by and cost to enrollees for all of the formulary of prescription drugs.

**Due Date:** Not later than February 14, 2025

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Standing committees of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over the Health and Human Services Commission

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## **Study and Report on the Expansion of Recovery Housing** (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 707](#)

**Description:** Study by the Health and Human Services Commission to evaluate the current status of and opportunities, challenges, and needs to expand substance use disorder recovery housing in Texas. The report must contain the results of the study and any recommendations for legislative or other action, including policy changes and the adoption or implementation of best practices and training and technical assistance resources.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

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## Survey on Long-Term Care Facilities Equipped with an Emergency Power Source (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 1423](#), SECTION 4

**Description:** Survey by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) on the number of licensed convalescence and nursing facilities and related institutions and the number of licensed assisted living facilities that are equipped with an operational emergency generator or comparable emergency power source that is capable of providing continuous electric utility services to the facility or institution during severe weather events or other emergencies. HHSC must submit the survey results and break the results down based on facility type, size, and geographic location.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- House Human Services Committee
- Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

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## Report on the Results of an Efficiency Audit of TANF and Recommendations for Efficiency Improvements (External auditor selected by the state auditor)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 1516](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** In 2022 and every sixth year thereafter, an external auditor selected by the state auditor must conduct an efficiency audit of the implementation and administration of TANF to examine fiscal management, efficiency of the use of resources, and the effectiveness of state efforts in achieving the goals of TANF. The report must contain the results of the audit and recommendations for efficiency improvements.

**Due Date:** Not later than November 1 of the year an audit is conducted

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board
- State Auditor
- Executive Commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission
- Chair of the House Human Services Committee
- Chair of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services



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## Reports on Research Programs Studying Medical Use of Low-THC Cannabis (Compassionate-Use Institutional Review Boards)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 1535](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** The bill authorizes the establishment of one or more compassionate-use institutional review boards to evaluate and approve proposed research programs to study the medical use of low-THC cannabis in treating eligible medical conditions and oversee patient treatment undertaken as part of an approved research program. Each review board must submit an annual report to the Health and Human Services Commission and a biennial report to the legislature. The reports must describe and assess the research findings of each approved research program.

**Due Date:** Reports to the Health and Human Services Commission are due not later than October 1 of each year, and reports to the legislature are due not later than October 1 of each even-numbered year

**Recipients:**

- Health and Human Services Commission
- Legislature

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## Report on the Results of an Efficiency Audit of DFPS and Recommendations for Efficiency Improvements (External auditor selected by the commissioner of the Department of Family and Protective Services)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 2374](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** During the 2022 state fiscal year and every fourth year thereafter, an external auditor selected by the commissioner of the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) must conduct an efficiency audit of DFPS operations to examine fiscal management, efficiency, outcomes for children and families served by DFPS, and the utilization of resources. The auditor must submit a report of the audit and recommendations for efficiency improvements.

**Due Date:** Not later than November 1 of the calendar year an efficiency audit is conducted

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board
- State Auditor
- Commissioner of the Department of Family and Protective Services
- Family and Protective Services Council
- Chair of the House Human Services Committee
- Chair of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

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## Study and Report on Housing for Child and Youth Victims of a Trafficking of Persons Offense (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 2633](#), SECTION 12

**Description:** From money appropriated under the trafficked persons grant program established by the bill, the Health and Human Services Commission must conduct a study to determine the needs and best practices of establishing permanent, safe, and secure housing for child and youth victims of an offense of trafficking of persons. The report must contain the study's results.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Standing committees of the legislature with jurisdiction over the Health and Human Services Commission

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## Study and Report on the Feasibility of Creating an Online Portal to Request and Check Placement on a Medicaid Waiver Program Interest List (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 2658](#), SECTION 1; [Senate Bill 1648](#), SECTION 3

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, study by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), in consultation with the Intellectual and Developmental Disability System Redesign Advisory Committee and the STAR Kids Managed Care Advisory Committee, on the feasibility of creating an online portal for individuals to request to be placed, and check their placement, on a Medicaid waiver program interest list. As part of the study, HHSC must determine the most cost-effective automated method for determining the level of need of an individual seeking services through a waiver program. The report must summarize HHSC's findings and conclusions from the study.

**Due Date:** Not later than January 1, 2023

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Standing legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over health and human services

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

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## **Study to Determine the Cost-Effectiveness and Feasibility of Providing Certain Services to Medicaid Recipients Who Have Been Diagnosed with Diabetes** (Health and Human Services Commission)

---

**Legislation:** [House Bill 2658](#), SECTION 10

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, study by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to determine the cost-effectiveness and feasibility of providing medical nutrition therapy services and certain diabetes self-management education and support services to Medicaid recipients who have been diagnosed with diabetes. If HHSC determines that providing one or both of these types of services would improve health outcomes for Medicaid recipients and lower Medicaid costs, HHSC must develop a program to provide the benefits and seek prior approval from the Legislative Budget Board before implementing the program.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

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## **Study and Report on Medicaid Benefits and Services Not Provided in Texas Under the Medicaid Managed Care Model** (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 2658](#), SECTION 11

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, study by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to identify Medicaid benefits and services that are not provided in Texas under the Medicaid managed care model and to evaluate the feasibility, cost-effectiveness, and impact on Medicaid recipients of providing those identified benefits and services through that care model. The report must include a summary of the evaluation and a recommendation as to whether HHSC should implement the provision of the identified benefits and services through the Medicaid managed care model.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

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## **Study and Report on Dually Eligible Individuals Who Are Enrolled in the Medicaid Managed Care Program** (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 2658](#), SECTION 12

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, study by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) regarding individuals enrolled in the Medicaid managed care program who are dually eligible to receive health care benefits under both Medicaid and Medicare. The study must include an evaluation of the following:

- Medicare cost-sharing requirements for those enrolled individuals;
- the cost-effectiveness for a Medicaid managed care organization (MCO) to provide all Medicaid-eligible services not covered under Medicare and require cost-sharing for those services; and
- the impact on dually eligible individuals and Medicaid providers that would result from the implementation of an MCO providing, and requiring cost-sharing for, those services.

The report must include a summary of findings from the study and a recommendation as to whether HHSC should implement the provision of, and required cost-sharing for, those Medicaid-eligible services by a Medicaid MCO.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Study and Report Assessing the Impact of Revising the Capitation Rate Setting Strategy Used to Cover Long-Term Care Services and Supports Under the STAR+PLUS Medicaid Managed Care Program (Health and Human Services Commission)**

**Legislation:** [House Bill 2658](#), SECTION 13

**Description:** Using existing resources, the Health and Human Services Commission must conduct a study to assess the impact of revising the capitation rate setting strategy used to cover long-term care services and supports provided to recipients under the STAR+PLUS Medicaid managed care program from a strategy based on the setting in which services are provided to a strategy based on a blended rate. The study must do the following:

- assess the potential impact using a blended capitation rate would have on recipients’ choice of setting;
- include an actuarial analysis of the impact using a blended capitation rate would have on program spending; and
- consider the experience of other states that use a blended capitation rate to reimburse managed care organizations for the provision of long-term care services and supports under Medicaid.

The report must summarize the study’s findings.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- House Human Services Committee
- Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

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## Report on Federal Public Health Funding to Local Health Entities (Department of State Health Services)

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

**Description:** Biannual report from the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) on the allocation of federal public health funding received from the CDC. The first report must include federal public health funding allocated from January 1, 2020, to August 31, 2021, to state programs and local health entities. DSHS must provide updated reports including six additional months of federal public health funding every subsequent six months.

**Due Date:** Initial report due not later than October 1, 2021

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Chair of the House Appropriations Committee
- Chair of the Senate Committee on Finance
- Chair of the House Public Health Committee
- Chair of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services

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## Report on COVID-19 Immunization Distribution Equity (Department of State Health Services)

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

**Description:** Report from the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) on the equity of COVID-19 immunization distribution in Texas. The report must identify any disparities in the distribution of or access to COVID-19 immunizations and vaccine hesitancy rates in Texas based on an individual's race, gender, socioeconomic status, and geographic location. Along with the report, DSHS must submit recommendations for making the distribution of and access to the immunizations more equitable in Texas.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 31, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

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## Report on the Funding Impact of the DSRIP Program (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 15(j), Page II-53

**Description:** Report on an evaluation by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) of the funding impact, by provider type and class, of the discontinuation of the Delivery System

Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) program and implementation of successor programs on public and rural hospitals. The report must include HHSC's findings and recommendations.

**Due Date:** Not later than October 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives

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## **Study and Report on Improving Access to Pediatric Services (Health and Human Services Commission)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 29, Page II-58

**Description:** Study by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) regarding whether rate increases for services provided in any setting by a physician, including a specialist, to children ages 0 to 3 result in savings to the Medicaid program from reduced emergency room visits, reduced hospital admissions, reduced extended stays in neonatal intensive care units, and any other access to care related savings identified by HHSC. The study must examine the feasibility of determining an actuarially sound basis for cost and savings pursuant to federal actuarial soundness requirements. HHSC must report and make recommendations regarding the feasibility of cost neutral rate increases that could be implemented to improve access and reduce utilization in more expensive settings.

**Due Date:** Not later than November 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Legislative Budget Board
- Governor

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## **Evaluation of the Medicaid Rate Setting Methodology for Certain Intermediate Care Facilities and Waiver Providers (Health and Human Services Commission)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 30, Page II-58

**Description:** Evaluation by the Health and Human Services Commission, in collaboration with stakeholders, of the Medicaid rate setting methodology for certain intermediate care facilities and waiver providers, in order to develop reimbursement methodologies that more accurately reflect the costs of services.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

**Recipient:** 88th Legislature

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## Evaluation and Report on STAR Health Psychiatric Rates (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 32, Page II-58

**Description:** Evaluation by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), in coordination with a work group comprised of stakeholders with knowledge of the foster care population and their behavioral health needs, of the rate methodology and payment rate for psychiatric services provided to children enrolled in STAR Health. The evaluation must examine whether the rate of reimbursement for psychiatric services under STAR Health:

- impacts access to psychiatric and other mental health services;
- impacts provider network requirements;
- contributes to psychiatrists leaving the program;
- contributes to the workforce shortages of psychiatrists within the program, considering rural and urban variations; or
- results in higher occurrence of potentially preventable events.

The report must contain HHSC's findings and recommendations to improve access to psychiatric and other mental health services provided by STAR Health and any recommendations for changes to the rate methodology and payment rate.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

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

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## Study and Report on Medicaid Dialysis Cost Effectiveness (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 35, Page II-59

**Description:** Study by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), in consultation with stakeholders, regarding the most cost effective and clinically appropriate methods to deliver dialysis services under the state's Medicaid program. In conducting the study, HHSC must consider the following:

- the Medicare End-Stage Renal Disease Treatment Choices model and whether savings could be achieved through increased utilization of home dialysis;
- value-based purchasing models for dialysis services;
- innovative models of delivering services to persons with renal disease, including those that may have been developed under the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) program to serve Medicaid recipients and the uninsured;

- alternatives to providing dialysis to persons under emergency Medicaid to improve cost effectiveness and quality and reduce hospitalizations; and
- the manner in which other states have been able to modify implementation of their Medicaid program to increase options in providing dialysis.

The report must contain the study's results.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Legislative Budget Board
- Governor

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## **Study and Report on the Medicaid Managed Care Denial and Appeals Process** (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 36, Page II-59

**Description:** Study by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) of the Medicaid managed care denial and appeals process, including but not limited to, the administrative hearing process within the managed care networks for the STAR Kids, STAR Health, and STAR+PLUS programs. In conducting the study, HHSC must consider the following:

- the percentage of denials that are upheld or overturned on appeal over the last seven years;
- best practices and outcomes in other states;
- qualifications of hearing officers;
- timeliness of the review process;
- the denial notification process for families; and
- input from stakeholders, including the STAR Kids Managed Care Advisory Committee and the State Medicaid Managed Care Advisory Committee.

The report must contain the study's findings; steps HHSC has taken to implement Section 531.024164, Government Code, regarding external medical review; and a detailed timeline and plan for implementing the statute's provisions by March 1, 2023.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 11, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives

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## **Study and Report on HCS Medicaid Waiver Program** (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 38, Page II-60

**Description:** Study by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) on the provision of services under the Home and Community-based Services (HCS) Medicaid waiver program to



individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability who have high behavioral and medical needs. In conducting the study, HHSC must do the following:

- define the scope of high behavioral and medical needs for which an individual with an intellectual or developmental disability may require enhanced services and service coordination under the waiver program; and
- identify the number of individuals with an intellectual or developmental disability who are enrolled in the program and who have the highest behavioral and medical needs.

The report must contain the study's results.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

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## **Evaluation and Report on CHIP Expenditures** (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 45, Page II-62

**Description:** Evaluation by the Health and Human Services Commission of the current total expenditures of CHIP funds. The report must contain information regarding any unexpended or carry over funds, the number of clients served in the program, any change in the number of clients served, any funding shortfalls in client services, and method-of-finance used to fund client services.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2021

**Recipients:**

- Legislative Budget Board
- Governor
- Legislature

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## **Evaluation and Report on Including Patient Dosage Information in the Opioid Treatment Program Central Registry** (Health and Human Services Commission)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 56, Page II-65

**Description:** Evaluation by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) of the feasibility and costs associated with including patient dosage information in the opioid treatment program central registry. In this evaluation, HHSC must consider best practices for maintaining confidentiality while making database content available where appropriate, to ensure continuity of care in circumstances in which a patient's usual narcotic treatment program is unavailable. The report must contain HHSC's findings and recommendations.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board
- Permanent committees in the house and the senate with jurisdiction over health and human services

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**Study on Step-Down Housing (Health and Human Services Commission)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 57, Page II-65

**Description:** Study by the Health and Human Services Commission on the efficacy and efficiency of the step-down services in diverting individuals from the state mental health hospital inpatient system into the community. The study must identify the following:

- barriers in transitioning individuals out of the state mental health hospital inpatient system;
- best practices in providing step-down housing to individuals with complex psychiatric needs;
- potential funding sources to continue and expand services; and
- strategies to establish step-down housing programs in rural or remote counties.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Senate Committee on Finance
- House Appropriations Committee
- Legislative Budget Board
- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Permanent standing committees in the house and the senate with jurisdiction over health and human services

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**Study on 9-8-8 Implementation (Health and Human Services Commission)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 58, Page II-65

**Description:** Study by the Health and Human Services Commission on the adequacy and efficacy of existing National Suicide Prevention Lifeline (NSPL) infrastructure in Texas to determine state preparedness to comply with the federal National Suicide Hotline Designation Act of 2020. The study must make recommendations for sources of sustainable funding for NSPL infrastructure and crisis response services and must identify the following:

- the adequacy of existing NSPL infrastructure;
- strategies to improve linkages between NSPL infrastructure and crisis response services; and
- strategies to improve access to mental health crisis and suicide response.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Senate Committee on Finance
- House Appropriations Committee
- Legislative Budget Board
- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Permanent standing committees in the house and the senate with jurisdiction over health and human services

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**Report on the Uses of SABG Funds (Health and Human Services Commission)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 59, Page II-65

**Description:** Annual report by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) on the uses of the federal Substance Abuse Prevention and Treatment Block Grant (SABG) funds received by HHSC. The report must include an itemized list and detailed description of each activity funded with grant funds and identify whether an activity was funded by one-time federal COVID-19-related grant awards or grant awards received through the regular federal legislative process.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1 of each fiscal year

**Recipients:**

- Legislative Budget Board
- Governor
- Senate Committee on Finance
- House Appropriations Committee
- Permanent committees in the house and the senate with jurisdiction over health and human services

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**Report on Continuity of Care for Women Aging Out of CHIP and Medicaid (Health and Human Services Commission)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 69, Page II-69

**Description:** Report by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) on the number of individuals aging out of Medicaid and CHIP coverage who are able to maintain coverage under another Medicaid program, including Healthy Texas Women (HTW), through the HHSC administrative renewal process. The report must include the number of individuals determined ineligible through that process because documentation was not received and must evaluate the feasibility of implementing an auto-enrollment process for individuals aging out of Medicaid and CHIP into HTW. HHSC must develop recommendations to improve connecting individuals aging out of Medicaid or CHIP to enrollment in HTW.

**Due Date:** Not later than August 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives

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**Postpartum Depression Screening and Treatment Report**  
(Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 71, Page II-69

**Description:** Report by the Health and Human Services Commission, in coordination with the Department of State Health Services, on the prevalence, screening, and treatment of postpartum depression. The report must include recommendations to increase utilization of the screening and treatment within women’s health programs, increase the treatment of postpartum depression by local mental health authorities, and increase continuity of care. The report must also identify any factors related to health disparities or issues related to disproportionality.

**Due Date:** Not later than October 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Legislative Budget Board
- Governor
- Legislature

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**Study and Report on the Independent Living Services (ISL) Program**  
(Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 83, Page II-72

**Description:** Study by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) of the independent living services (ILS) program that aims to help people with disabilities achieve greater independence in the home and community. The study must do the following:

- evaluate the ILS grants and outsource model;
- assess if the ILS model of service provision is meeting the needs of Texans with disabilities;
- consider alternate methods to reduce administrative costs;
- explore utilization of funds and progress of the centers for independent living to obtain alternative or additional funding for operational expenses;
- maximize funds for the provision of services to consumers;
- increase collaboration with partners;
- ensure the provision of No Wrong Door and Wrap-around services;
- evaluate whether the number of consumers served has increased due to outsourcing of the program; and
- evaluate the roles and responsibilities of HHSC to identify strengths, weaknesses, risks and opportunities for improvement and expand the provider base for the services to provide improved support, budgetary flexibility, and added benefits to the provider base.

The report must contain the study’s findings.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Legislative Budget Board
- Governor
- Chair of the House Appropriations Committee
- Chair of the Senate Committee on Finance
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives

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## Report on COVID-19-Related Federal Funds Provided to Nursing Facilities and Hospitals (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 143, Page II-92

**Description:** Biannual report by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) detailing the total value and uses of COVID-19-related federal funds, including provider relief funds, provided directly to nursing facilities and hospitals contracting with HHSC since the beginning of the COVID-19 public health emergency. The report must include any temporary rate increases provided to nursing facilities related to the COVID-19 pandemic and identify any facilities that do not provide information requested by HHSC necessary to complete the report. The first report must include a description of any requirements implemented for nursing facilities in response to the pandemic, the cost to the facilities to implement the requirements, and recommendations on whether or not the requirements should be continued after the end of the public health emergency.

**Due Date:** On December 1 and June 1 of each fiscal year

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board
- Appropriate standing committees in the legislature

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## Nursing Home Workforce Report (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 146, Page II-93

**Description:** Report by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), in coordination with the Long-term Care Facilities Council, on the workforce shortage in nursing homes and delivery of care in Texas nursing facilities. In completing the report, HHSC must consult with certain relevant individuals and entities, evaluate the current workforce shortage and direct care staffing, examine and develop recommendations for nursing home reforms, and develop recommendations for legislation, policies, and short-term and long-term strategies for the retention and recruitment of direct care staff to ensure an adequate workforce is in place to provide high-quality, cost-effective health care.

**Due Date:** Not later than November 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives

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**Study and Report on Assisted Living Facility Resident Quality of Care and Resident Satisfaction (Health and Human Services Commission)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 147, Page II-94

**Description:** Study by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) of assisted living facility residents' quality of care and quality of life. In conducting the study, HHSC must review at least 30 percent of assisted living facilities in Texas, including facilities of various licensed capacities and license types, and must conduct onsite case reviews of the care of residents and interviews with residents, facility staff, and long-term care ombudsmen. The report must include an evaluation of facility policies and facility disclosure statements. It also must evaluate preventable occurrences and any adverse outcomes related to issues including medication errors, inappropriate use of antipsychotic medication, falls, inappropriate placement in a locked unit, and healthcare-acquired infections.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives

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**Report on the Telemedicine Medical Services for Cancer Patients Pilot Program (The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 10, Page III-186

**Description:** The University of Texas M.D. Anderson Cancer Center, in conjunction with the Texas Medical Board, must develop and implement a pilot program authorizing a physician or other health care provider to prescribe, through a telemedicine medical service, drugs for pain management or supportive palliative care to a patient with a current or previous cancer diagnosis and to provide other telemedicine medical services to those patients. The cancer center must report its findings from the pilot program and include the following information in the report:

- the number of patients who receive pain management services or supportive palliative care through telemedicine medical services under the program;
- an estimate of patient attendance rates during the two biennia preceding August 31, 2021, for scheduled in-person visits compared to telemedicine medical service appointments for pain management services or supportive palliative care;
- an evaluation of and recommendations for improvements to the program; and
- recommendations for the expansion of the program.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

**Recipients:**

- Texas Medical Board
- Legislature

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## **Update to Report on Suicide and Suicide Prevention (Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 10.04(f), Page IX-57

**Description:** The Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council must provide an update to the report on suicide and suicide prevention required by House Bill 3980, 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019. The updated report must include data and recommendations specific to suicides among veterans and foster youth in Texas.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Legislative Budget Board
- Governor

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## **Report on Employment Services Provided to Certain Medicaid Recipients (Executive Commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 50](#), SECTIONS 1 and 3

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, a biennial report from the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission outlining the following information with respect to employment services provided to Medicaid recipients receiving services through an applicable Section 1915(c) waiver program or the STAR+PLUS home and community-based services waiver program:

- the number of these recipients who are receiving employment services from the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) or through a Medicaid waiver program in accordance with rules adopted under the bill;
- whether those services are provided by the TWC, through the applicable waiver program, or both; and
- the number of recipients who have obtained competitive and integrated employment, categorized by waiver program and, if applicable, a recipient's level of care.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 31 of each even-numbered year beginning in 2024

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Legislature

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## Report on the Prevalence of Eating Disorders and Eating Disorder-Related Deaths in Texas (Department of State Health Services and Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 184](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Report prepared by the Department of State Health Services (DSHS), in collaboration with the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), regarding the prevalence of eating disorders and eating disorder-related deaths in Texas. The report must include regional and statewide statistics regarding this prevalence, an overview of national trends in eating disorders, and an overview of state-funded behavioral health treatment options available to persons with eating disorders. DSHS and HHSC must also submit with the report any recommendations for legislative or other action to reduce the prevalence of eating disorders and eating disorder-related deaths in Texas.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2023

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2024

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## Report on the Prevalence of Eating Disorders Among Youth in Texas (Department of State Health Services)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 184](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** Report from the Department of State Health Services on the prevalence of eating disorders among youth in Texas, which may be assessed by including additional questions in the Youth Risk Behavior Survey created by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. A summary of those survey findings must be submitted with the report.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2024

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2025

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## Study and Report on Out-of-State Physicians Who Practiced Medicine in Texas During the COVID-19 Pandemic (Texas Medical Board)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 284](#)

**Description:** Study by the Texas Medical Board (TMB) of out-of-state physicians who practiced medicine in Texas during the COVID-19 pandemic pursuant to TMB rules providing for the waiver of licensing requirements during disasters and emergencies. In conducting the study, the TMB must



solicit and consider information from hospitals and sponsoring physicians in Texas, as applicable, regarding the performance of an out-of-state physician. The report must include a summary of the study and any legislative recommendations based on the study.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Standing committees of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over the Texas Medical Board

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

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## **Study and Report on the Regulation of Group Homes** (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 500](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** Study by the Health and Human Services Commission on state and local regulation of group homes. The study must do the following:

- identify and evaluate state laws relating to the regulation of group homes, including boarding home facilities and community homes;
- analyze the procedures for filing complaints against group homes and make recommendations to expedite complaint processes;
- analyze complaints filed against group homes in the preceding 10 years;
- analyze the enforcement authority over group homes granted to state and local governmental agencies, including the authority of counties and municipalities to enforce boarding home regulations;
- recommend whether additional state and local governmental enforcement authority over group homes is needed;
- recommend processes to expedite the licensing of and regulatory procedures for group homes;
- determine whether new categories of group homes should be licensed or regulated by state or local governmental agencies;
- discuss and recommend methods for identifying unlicensed group homes; and
- evaluate whether state law prohibiting a county or municipality from excluding boarding home facilities from residential areas by zoning and similar regulations prevents certain counties and municipalities from regulating boarding home facilities.

The report must include a summary of the study's results and any legislative recommendations based on the study.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor

- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Members of the standing committees of the house and the senate with jurisdiction over the Health and Human Services Commission

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## **Study and Report on the Interoperability Needs and Technology Readiness of Behavioral Health Service Providers in Texas** (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 640](#)

**Description:** Study by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to assess the interoperability needs and technology readiness of behavioral health service providers in Texas. In conducting the study, HHSC must determine which of the providers use an electronic health record management system and evaluate each such provider’s implementation and use of the system. HHSC must also evaluate barriers to providers being connected or becoming connected. The report must include the following:

- a state plan, including a proposed timeline, for aligning the interoperability and technological capabilities in the provision of behavioral health services with applicable law;
- information on gaps in education regarding the appropriate sharing of behavioral health data and recommendations for closing those gaps;
- an evaluation of the differences and similarities between federal and state law on the interoperability and technological requirements in the provision of behavioral health services; and
- recommendations for standardizing the use of social determinants of health.

**Due Date:** Not later than August 31, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

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## **Quarterly Report on Federal COVID-19 Funding Received by Health Care Institutions** (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 809](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Quarterly report by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) on federal funds received by health care institutions for purposes of assisting the institution during the COVID-19 public health emergency. Each applicable health care institution must report on a monthly basis to HHSC the amount of these federal dollars received, and an institution’s initial report must include all federal money received between January 31, 2020 and August 31, 2021.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Legislative Budget Board
- Standing committees of the house and the senate with primary jurisdiction over state finance and public health

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

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## **Evaluation and Plan Related to the State Health Care System’s Capability to Respond to Public Health Threats (Department of State Health Services)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 969](#), SECTION 4

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, the Department of State Health Services (DSHS), in coordination with the Health and Human Services Commission, regional advisory councils, local health departments, and health care system organizations, must evaluate the planning and response capabilities of the state health care system to respond to public health threats. DSHS must submit an implementation plan based on the findings of the evaluation.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

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## **Report Evaluating Public Health Regions and Regional Offices (Department of State Health Services)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 969](#), SECTION 4

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, the Department of State Health Services (DSHS), in coordination with local health departments, areas served by DSHS regional offices, and the Public Health Funding and Policy Committee, must evaluate the current scope, size, function, and public health response capabilities of public health regions and regional offices. DSHS must identify current capabilities, assess the need for geographic realignment, and identify ways to improve support to local health departments and areas in which DSHS serves as the primary public health provider. The report must be based on the results of the evaluation.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

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## Report on Data Collection and Reporting During a Public Health Disaster (Department of State Health Services)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 969](#), SECTION 4

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, the Department of State Health Services (DSHS), in coordination with regional advisory councils and certain other health entities, must identify current processes for and barriers to standardized, regular, and consistent data collection and reporting by DSHS, laboratories, health care facilities, local health departments, and other entities as appropriate during a declared public health disaster. DSHS must implement best practices and provide a report of its findings.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

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## Report on the Implementation of Initiatives and Measures Designed to Reduce Costs and Improve Recipient Health Outcomes Under Medicaid (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1136](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** Biannual report by the Health and Human Services Commission summarizing its efforts to do the following:

- encourage Medicaid providers to continue implementing interventions and best practices associated with improvements in the health outcomes of Medicaid recipients that were developed and achieved under the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) program; and
- coordinate with providers receiving supplemental payments under the uncompensated care payment program to identify and implement initiatives designed to reduce Medicaid recipients' use of hospital emergency room services as a primary means of receiving health care benefits.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

**Recipient:** Legislature

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## Report Regarding Medical Review of Medicaid Service Denials for Foster Care Youth (Health and Human Services Commission and Department of Family and Protective Services)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1648](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Using existing resources, the Health and Human Services Commission must coordinate with the Department of Family and Protective Services to develop and implement a

process to review a denial of services under the Medicaid managed care program on the basis of medical necessity for foster care youth. The report must include a summary of the process that is developed and implemented.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 31, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

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## **Report on the Advancing Care for Exceptional Kids Pilot Program** (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1648](#), SECTION 3

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) must collaborate with stakeholders to develop and implement the advancing care for exceptional kids pilot program to provide coordinated care through a health home to children with complex medical conditions. The report must include a summary of the implementation of the pilot program and, if the program has been operating for a period sufficient to obtain necessary data, a summary of HHSC's evaluation of the effect of the program on the coordination of care for applicable children and a recommendation regarding the continuation, expansion, or termination of the pilot program.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 31, 2024

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2025

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## **Report Evaluating Benefits Used Under the Medicaid Program in the STAR Health Program Offered to Children in Foster Care** (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1896](#), SECTION 13

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, the Health and Human Services Commission must annually evaluate the use of Medicaid benefits in the STAR Health program offered to children in foster care and provide recommendations to the Department of Family and Protective Services and each single source continuum contractor in Texas to better coordinate the provision of health care and use of those benefits for children in foster care. The report must contain the findings of the evaluation.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

**Recipients:** Standing committees of the house and the senate having jurisdiction over the Department of Family and Protective Services

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## Report on the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' Integrated Care for Kids Model (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1896](#), SECTION 27

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), in collaboration with the Department of Family and Protective Services, must review the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services' Integrated Care for Kids (InCK) Model to determine whether implementing the model could benefit children in Texas. The report must contain HHSC's findings.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

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## Options for Conducting Independent Administrative Reviews and Independent Appeals Regarding Investigations of Licensed Residential Child-Care Facilities (Department of Family and Protective Services)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1896](#), SECTION 29

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) must provide options for conducting the following:

- independent administrative reviews of DFPS investigations of licensed residential child-care facilities; and
- independent appeals of determinations from those investigations.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

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## Study and Report on Administrative Penalties Assessed Against Substance Use Disorder Service Providers (Health and Human Services Commission)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 2013](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Study by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to evaluate administrative penalties assessed by HHSC against substance use disorder service providers. Specifically, HHSC must evaluate the following:

- the effect of administrative penalties assessed on or before the repeal of certain agency rules on March 1, 2020;

- the impact on providers since March 1, 2020, of administrative penalties assessed under those repealed rules;
  - the economic impact on providers of the change in the administrative penalty schedule since March 1, 2020;
  - the effect of all of these changes on the ability of a provider to provide services in Texas; and
  - whether the administrative penalty schedule adopted after March 1, 2020, is appropriate.
- The report must contain the study's results and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

**Due Date:** Not later than January 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

## **Report on Grants Awarded to Address Critical Staffing Needs Resulting from Frontline Health Care Workers Affected by COVID-19** (Health and Human Services Commission)

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 8](#) (3rd Called Session), SECTION 33

**Description:** From money received by the state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund established under the federal American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, the bill appropriates \$378,300,000 to the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) for the purpose of providing funding during the two-year period beginning on the bill's effective date for HHSC to administer one-time grants to address critical staffing needs resulting from frontline health care workers affected by COVID-19. HHSC must annually report the grants awarded, and the report must include the following information for the year covered by the report:

- the amount of grants awarded;
- the award recipients; and
- the total amount of each grant used by the recipient.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1 of each applicable year

**Recipient:** Legislative Budget Board

**The following entries also related to health and human services are included in the indicated chapters:**

- [Study and Report on the State Response to COVID-19 \(Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery\)](#)
- [Study and Report on Higher Education Mental Health Services \(Higher Education\)](#)
- [Report Regarding the Texas All Payor Claims Database and Related Health Care Recommendations and Analysis \(Insurance\)](#)
- [Report Regarding Rights and Responsibilities for Mental Health Condition and Substance Use Disorder Benefits and Regarding Complaints Submitted Through the Parity Complaint Portal \(Insurance\)](#)
- [Study and Report on Public Safety Net Programs \(State Government\)](#)

# HIGHER EDUCATION

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## **Study and Report on Religious Studies Program at Texas Southern University** (Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 981](#)

**Description:** Study by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board on the feasibility of establishing a religious studies program that offers bachelor's, master's, and doctoral degrees at Texas Southern University. The report must contain the results of the study.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2020

**Recipients:**

- Legislative standing committees with primary jurisdiction over higher education
- Board of Regents of Texas Southern University

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

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## **Study on the Economic Impact of an Additional Top 50 Ranked Public University** (Trusted Programs Within the Governor's Office)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 37, Page I-63

**Description:** Study by the trusted programs within the governor's office to examine the economic impact of appropriating additional university funding for an existing ethnically diverse public university in order to elevate that university to a Top 50 ranked public university in the United States.

**Due Date:** Not later than June 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

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## **Report on COVID-19 Funding Received by Institutions of Higher Education** (Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 63, Page III-279

**Description:** Biannual report from the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board (THECB) containing information reported to the THECB from each institution of higher education that has received federal funds related to the COVID-19 pandemic from a state or federal agency regarding the amount of the awards, expenditures, and uses of those funds.

**Due Date:** In January and July of each fiscal year



**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board
- Appropriate standing committees in the legislature

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**Study and Report on Higher Education Mental Health Services**  
(Collaborative Task Force on Higher Education Mental Health Services)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 36](#), SECTION 3

**Description:** Study by the Collaborative Task Force on Higher Education Mental Health Services, which is created by the bill to study and evaluate mental health services provided at institutions of higher education directly to students enrolled at the institution, including students who have experienced hazing. The task force must do the following:

- research the capacity of these institutions to identify and address the mental health needs of students;
- identify institutional, environmental, and social barriers that directly impact student mental health and well-being; and
- explore innovative and effective approaches to meeting the mental health needs of students, with specific focus on first generation college students, students of color, economically disadvantaged students, students who are parents, students of various sexual orientations, survivors of sexual assault, students who have experienced hazing, students who are immigrants, students who are or were previously in the conservatorship of the Department of Family and Protective Services, and students from rural communities.

The report must contain the results of the task force’s activities and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2024

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2025

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**Report on the Transition of Texas Woman’s University Branch Locations to Component Institutions of the Texas Woman’s University System**  
(Texas Woman’s University System)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1126](#), SECTION 9

**Description:** Report by the Texas Woman’s University System on the transition of its branch locations at Dallas and Houston to component institutions of the system. The report must include the following information:

- a strategy for each branch location to attain accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges;
- a strategy for improvement and expansion of facilities, if needed, at each branch location that does not include the use of additional state funding;
- proposed degree programs to be offered by each branch location and the estimated additional state costs associated with those programs; and
- any anticipated increase in administrative costs associated with the transition.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Chairs of the standing legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over appropriations or higher education

**Expiration Date:** January 1, 2023

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## **Report and Recommendations Regarding the State Funding Formula and Funding Levels for Public Junior Colleges in Texas** (Texas Commission on Community College Finance)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1230](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Report by the Texas Commission on Community College Finance, which is established by the bill to make recommendations for consideration by the 88th Texas Legislature regarding the state funding formula and funding levels for public junior colleges in Texas that would be sufficient to sustain viable junior college education and training offerings throughout Texas and improve student outcomes in alignment with state postsecondary goals. The commission must make recommendations on:

- the components of state funding for public junior colleges, including contact hour funding formulas; and
- the feasibility of establishing shared service agreements or interinstitutional collaborations through which institutions of higher education may perform administrative services, other than direct instruction and student support services, for other institutions of higher education for a fee or other consideration.

To inform those recommendations, the commission may examine and make recommendations on other policy and finance matters.

**Due Date:** Not later than November 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Legislature

**Expiration Date:** January 1, 2023

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## Study and Report on Comprehensive Regional University Funding (Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1295](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** Study by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, in consultation with a representative group of eligible institutions of higher education, on the method established by the bill for funding comprehensive regional universities to determine that method's effectiveness in allocating state funds fairly and equitably and in promoting student success at eligible institutions. The report must include the results of the study and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

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## Report on Model Guidelines for Certain Higher Education Capital Projects (Capital Project Oversight Advisory Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 52](#) (3rd Called Session), SECTION 4

**Description:** Report by the Capital Project Oversight Advisory Commission, which is established by the bill to develop, in consultation with the Legislative Budget Board and the comptroller of public accounts, model guidelines to be considered by public institutions of higher education and university systems for procurement and construction related to capital projects for which the issuance of bonds is specifically authorized under Chapter 55, Education Code. The commission must submit a report on the model guidelines that are developed and recommendations for legislative or other action.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives

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**The following entries also related to higher education are included in the indicated chapters:**

- [Preparation for Adult Living \(PAL\) Program Credit Assurance Plan \(Family Law\)](#)
- [Tri-Agency Work-Based Learning Strategic Framework \(Labor and Employment\)](#)

# INSURANCE

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## **Study and Report on the Effect of House Bill 19 on Commercial Automobile Insurance (Texas Department of Insurance)**

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 19](#), SECTION 5

**Description:** Biennial study by the Texas Department of Insurance on the effect of the bill's provisions on premiums, deductibles, coverage, and availability of coverage for commercial automobile insurance. The report must contain the results of the study conducted for the preceding biennium.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** December 31, 2026

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## **Report Regarding the Texas All Payor Claims Database and Related Health Care Recommendations and Analysis (Center for Healthcare Data at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston)**

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 2090](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Biennial report from the Center for Healthcare Data at The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston containing the following information:

- an analysis of the data submitted to the center for use in the Texas All Payor Claims Database established under the bill;
- information regarding the submission of data to the center for use in the database and the maintenance, analysis, and use of the data;
- recommendations from the center, in consultation with the stakeholder advisory group established under the bill, to further improve the transparency, cost-effectiveness, accessibility, and quality of health care in Texas; and
- an analysis of the trends of health care affordability, availability, quality, and utilization.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1 of each even-numbered year

**Recipient:** Legislature

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## **Report Regarding Rights and Responsibilities for Mental Health Condition and Substance Use Disorder Benefits and Regarding Complaints Submitted Through the Parity Complaint Portal (Commissioner of Insurance)**

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 2595](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** The commissioner of insurance must develop and maintain a parity complaint portal that is an integrated system that allows for health benefit plan enrollees to submit complaints of suspected violations of state law governing coverage for mental health conditions and substance use disorders. The commissioner, in collaboration with the Health and Human Services Commission’s ombudsman for behavioral health, must prepare and submit an annual report on the status of rights and responsibilities for mental health condition and substance use disorder benefits and of resolved and unresolved complaints submitted through the portal.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1 of each year

**Recipients:**

- Appropriate committees of the legislature
- Appropriate state agencies

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## **Report on Anticipated Health Benefit Coverage Offered Through a Subsidiary of the Texas Mutual Insurance Company (Texas Mutual Insurance Company)**

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 3752](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** In developing health benefit coverage or health benefit plan options to be offered through a subsidiary of the Texas Mutual Insurance Company as authorized under the bill, Texas Mutual must fully explore all applicable health coverage options and place emphasis on specified considerations and guiding principles. Texas Mutual must submit a report explaining how any anticipated health benefit coverage offerings would comply with all those considerations and guiding principles.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** January 1, 2023

---

## **Study and Report Regarding Billing by Ground Ambulance Service Providers (Texas Department of Insurance)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 790](#), SECTION 3

**Description:** Study by the Texas Department of Insurance on the following topics regarding billing by ground ambulance service providers:

- balance billing practices of ground ambulance service providers;
- variations in prices for ground ambulance services;
- the proportion of ground ambulances that are in-network;
- trends in network inclusion; and
- factors contributing to the network status of ground ambulances.

The report must provide the study results.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Members of the standing committees of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over the Texas Department of Insurance

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

---

**Study and Report on the Funding and Funding Structure of TWIA**  
(Windstorm Insurance Legislative Oversight Board)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1448](#), SECTION 3

**Description:** Transfer of the responsibility to conduct a one-time study of the funding and funding structure of the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association (TWIA) from the windstorm insurance legislative funding and funding structure oversight board, which is a temporary board that expired September 1, 2021, and was unable to meet and complete its work due to COVID-19, to the windstorm insurance legislative oversight board. The corresponding report of findings and recommendations resulting from the study must be included in the legislative oversight board's biennial report.

**Due Date:** Not later than November 15, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

---

**The following entries also related to insurance are included in the Health and Human Services chapter:**

- [Report on the Prescription Drug Savings Program for Certain Uninsured Individuals](#)
- [Study and Report on Post-Rebate Insulin Provided Under the Prescription Drug Savings Program for Certain Uninsured Individuals](#)
- [General Study and Report on Post-Rebate Prescription Drugs Provided Under the Prescription Drugs Savings Program for Certain Uninsured Individuals](#)

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# LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT

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## Strategic Plan to Support the Child-Care Workforce (Texas Workforce Commission)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 619](#)

**Description:** Strategic plan prepared by the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) for improving the quality of the infant, toddler, preschool, and school-age child-care workforce in Texas. The plan must include the following:

- recommendations for:
  - local workforce development boards to improve, sustain, and support the child-care workforce;
  - increasing compensation for and reducing turnover of child-care workers;
  - eliminating pay disparities in the child-care workforce;
  - increasing paid opportunities for professional development and education for child-care workers, including apprenticeships;
  - increasing participation in the Texas Early Childhood Professional Development System; and
  - public and private institutions of higher education to increase the use of articulation agreements with school districts and open-enrollment charter schools and assist in the education and training of child-care workers;
- best practices from local workforce development boards in Texas and other programs designed to support child-care workers;
- specific recommendations for improving the infant and toddler child-care workforce; and
- a timeline and benchmarks for the TWC and local workforce development boards to implement the plan's recommendations.

The TWC must update the plan every three years.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 31, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives

---

## Tri-Agency Work-Based Learning Strategic Framework (Texas Workforce Commission, Texas Education Agency, and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 1247](#)

**Description:** The Texas Workforce Commission, Texas Education Agency, and Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board must jointly develop a strategic framework to encourage work-based learning in Texas and submit a report on the framework that does the following:



- defines “work-based learning opportunity” in a comprehensive manner that includes a variety of high-quality and rigorous work-based learning opportunities;
- determines common language, definitions, and quality standards to be used by each agency for work-based learning opportunities that span secondary and postsecondary education;
- establishes methods of identifying student and adult learner skills and competencies that are aligned with industry demand and talent needs, with a particular focus on high-demand, high-growth industries that offer livable wages;
- aligns priorities, programs, and goals across the agencies to ensure the development of cohesive work-based learning strategies that strengthen workforce pipelines;
- identifies strategies for the agencies to partner with public primary and secondary schools, public institutions of higher education, businesses, workforce organizations, and relevant collaboratives to implement high-quality project-based learning in middle and junior high school classrooms and work-based learning experiences in high school and postsecondary education;
- provides methods of supporting partnerships between public institutions of higher education to create additional pathways for postsecondary work-based learning credentials of value to high-demand, high-growth industries and that lead to quality career opportunities;
- articulates the roles and responsibilities of public primary and secondary schools, public institutions of higher education, and workforce boards and organizations in implementing high-quality work-based learning programs and partnerships;
- provides a strategy for identifying industry-led high-quality training models that promote and replicate high-need jobs that lead to equitable outcomes for individuals and can be scaled across industries and regions;
- identifies opportunities to improve and incentivize regional coordination across the state to better reflect regional workforce needs and eliminate duplicative programs;
- identifies streamlined data collection models for primary, secondary, and postsecondary education and workforce accountability that can be disaggregated as necessary to evaluate and increase equity in access to high-quality programs, with a focus on underrepresented populations;
- includes recommendations to improve the coordination of funds and awarding of grants among the agencies to eliminate barriers to entry for regional partners; and
- identifies any available federal funds that may be used for work-based learning and training and includes recommendations regarding the use of those funds by the agencies.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 31, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

---

## **Inventory of Apprenticeship and Internship Opportunities for People with Disabilities (Texas Workforce Commission)**

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 48, Page VII-44

**Description:** Inventory conducted by the Texas Workforce Commission of all current apprenticeship and internship opportunities for people with disabilities. The inventory must include the following information:

- the number and type of apprenticeship opportunities currently available;
- the number and type of intern opportunities currently available;
- the length of program;
- the age ranges of the participants;
- whether the employer is a public or private entity;
- the geographic distribution of the programs;
- how the programs are funded;
- how the opportunities are publicized; and
- the number of individuals with disabilities that obtained full-time employment as a result of the intern or apprentice program.

**Due Date:** Not later than October 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Rehabilitation Council of Texas
- Legislature

**Report Evaluating Effect of Sales and Use Tax Refund Pilot Program for Certain Persons Who Employ Apprentices**  
(Executive Director of the Texas Workforce Commission)

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1524](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Report from the executive director of the Texas Workforce Commission on the sales and use tax refund pilot program that is established by the bill, subject to the availability of funds, for certain persons who employ at least one apprentice in a qualified apprenticeship position for at least seven months during the calendar year. The report must evaluate the effect of the pilot program on the employment outcomes and earnings of apprentices with respect to whom refunds are granted under the pilot program and include a recommendation regarding whether the pilot program should be continued, expanded, or terminated.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2024

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Presiding officer of each legislative standing committee with primary jurisdiction over taxation

**Expiration Date:** December 31, 2026

**The following entry also related to labor and employment is included in the Health and Human Services chapter:**

- [Report on Employment Services Provided to Certain Medicaid Recipients](#)

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# MILITARY FORCES AND VETERANS

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## **Study and Report on Alternative Therapies for Treating Veterans with PTSD** (Health and Human Services Commission)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 1802](#)

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), in collaboration with Baylor College of Medicine and in partnership with a military veterans hospital or a medical center that provides medical care to veterans, must conduct a study on the efficacy of using alternative therapies, including the use of 3,4-methylenedioxymethamphetamine (MDMA), psilocybin, and ketamine, in the treatment of veterans who suffer from PTSD. HHSC must prepare and submit quarterly reports on the progress of the study and a final report containing the results of the study and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

**Due Date:** Final report due not later than December 1, 2024

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2025

---

## **Review of Veteran Hospital Billing** (Texas Veterans Commission)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 13, Page I-95

**Description:** Review by the Texas Veterans Commission of billing practices of hospitals designated by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) as “veteran designated hospitals.” The review must focus on the volume of bills that have been unpaid by veterans or the VA and make recommendations on how to reduce outstanding unpaid bills and prevent future occurrences.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

**Recipient:** Legislature

---

## **Study and Report on Integrated Care for Veterans with PTSD** (The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 10, Page III-177

**Description:** Study by The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, in coordination with the Health and Human Services Commission, on the benefits of providing integrated care

to veterans with PTSD pursuant to the requirements of the study required under Chapter 662 (H.B. 3404), Acts of the 84th Legislature, Regular Session, 2015. The study must evaluate the benefits of a standardized comprehensive trauma and PTSD assessment and the benefits of family involvement in PTSD treatment. The report must contain the study's results, including the number of people served and the type of integrated care provided through the study.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Legislative Budget Board
- Governor

---

**Report on the State Sexual Offense Prevention and Response Program  
Established by the Texas Military Department  
(Adjutant General or State Sexual Offense Response Coordinator)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 623](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** Annual report on the activities under the state sexual offense prevention and response program created by the Texas Military Department under the bill and the department's activities relating to sexual offense prevention and response to be submitted either by the adjutant general or by the state sexual offense response coordinator, a position which is also created under the bill. Using state data collected by the coordinator, the report must include the following information for the preceding state fiscal year:

- the policies and procedures implemented by the coordinator and adjutant general in response to incidents of sexual assault and indecent assault;
- an assessment of the implementation and effectiveness of those policies and procedures and of the program on the prevention and oversight of and the state's response to reports of assault within the department;
- an analysis of the number of incidents of sexual assault and indecent assault involving members of the Texas military forces; and
- deficiencies in the department's training of the coordinator.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Chairs of the standing committees of the house and the senate with primary jurisdiction over the Texas Military Department

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**The following entry also related to military forces and veterans is included in the Health and Human Services chapter:**

- [Update to Report on Suicide and Suicide Prevention](#)

# OCCUPATIONAL REGULATION

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## **Study and Report on the Regulation of Auctioneering** (Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 1560](#), SECTION 2.09

**Description:** Study by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR), in consultation with the Auctioneer Advisory Board, on the regulation of auctioneering. The report must contain any findings and recommendations to improve public safety and TDLR processes and to eliminate inefficiencies, including any necessary legislative changes.

**Due Date:** Not later than January 1, 2023

**Recipients:** Standing legislative committees with jurisdiction over the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

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## **Health Professions Council Regulatory Database Consolidation Report** (Health Professions Council)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 5, Page VIII-14

**Description:** Report by the Health Professions Council, working with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) and the Department of Information Resources, on the potential costs, savings, and benefits of transitioning the council's shared regulatory database from the current contract vendor arrangement to the Texas Licensing System at TDLR. The report must include information related to expenditures that would be needed at the affected agencies, full-time equivalent positions that may need to be transferred between agencies, any effect on current contracts related to the shared regulatory database, and any other information that the agencies involved deem necessary in order to fully report on this potential project.

**Due Date:** Not later than July 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislative Budget Board

---

## **Report on the Findings of an Effectiveness Audit of the TBVME (State Auditor)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 713](#), SECTION 4.02

**Description:** Report containing the findings of an effectiveness audit of the State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners (TBVME) to be conducted by the state auditor for the purpose of evaluating the TBVME's implementation of certain Sunset Advisory Commission recommendations. The state auditor may not begin this audit before December 1, 2023.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2024

**Recipients:** Chair and executive director of the Sunset Advisory Commission

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**The following entry also related to occupational regulation is included in the Health and Human Services chapter:**

- [Study and Report on Out-of-State Physicians Who Practiced Medicine in Texas During the COVID-19 Pandemic](#)

# PUBLIC EDUCATION

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## Study and Report on Competency-Based Educational Programs (Texas Education Agency)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 572](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** Study by the Texas Education Agency on the implementation of competency-based educational programs by public schools in Texas. The study must analyze methods of providing funding for the programs that do not rely on average daily attendance, methods of assessing performance of the programs under the public school accountability system, and methods of providing the programs to nontraditional students, including adult students. The report must contain the results of the study and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

---

## Report of Recommendations Addressing Special Education Funding (Texas Commission on Special Education Funding)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 1525](#), SECTION 42

**Description:** Report from the Texas Commission on Special Education Funding, which is established by the bill, containing recommendations for statutory changes to improve special education funding.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 31, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislature

**Expiration Date:** January 1, 2023

---

## Report of Recommendations for Legislative Action to Improve the Implementation of Virtual Education (Texas Commission on Virtual Education)

---

**Legislation:** [House Bill 3643](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, the Texas Commission on Virtual Education, which is established by the bill to develop and make recommendations regarding the funding and



delivery of virtual education in the public school system, must prepare and deliver a report that contains the commission's recommendations for legislative action to improve the implementation of virtual education.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 31, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislature

**Expiration Date:** January 1, 2023

---

## Report on COVID-19 Funding to School Districts (Texas Education Agency)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 79, Page III-26

**Description:** Biannual report by the Texas Education Agency detailing the value and uses of COVID-19-related federal funds provided to each school district and charter school since the beginning of the pandemic.

**Due Date:** On December 1 and June 1 of each fiscal year

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board
- Appropriate standing committee of the legislature

---

## Study and Report on Telehealth Programs in Public Schools (Texas Education Agency)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 83, Page III-27

**Description:** Study by the Texas Education Agency on the possibility and utility of implementing telehealth programs in public schools that do not have a full-time nurse on site at each campus. The report must contain the study's results and any recommendations for legislative or other action and must identify the manner in which the use of telemedicine can increase access to medical care for students who attend a school that does not have a full-time nurse or that only has a nurse on site for part of the day.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

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## Report Regarding Clearinghouse of Continuing Education and Training Requirements for Educators and Other School Personnel

(Continuing Education and Training Clearinghouse Advisory Group)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1267](#), SECTION 5

**Description:** Report by the advisory group created by the bill to review and provide input on the best practices and industry recommendations included in the comprehensive clearinghouse of information regarding continuing education and training requirements for educators and other school personnel, which is also created by the bill. The advisory group must complete a biennial review of the clearinghouse and submit a report of the group's recommendations regarding whether any required continuing education or training may be reduced, eliminated, or consolidated with other existing continuing education or training.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year

**Recipient:** Legislature

---

## Study and Report on Health Coverage Options for Public School District Employees (Each regional school district health coverage advisory committee)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1444](#), SECTION 3

**Description:** Each regional education service center must establish a regional school district health coverage advisory committee for purposes of conducting a study assessing health care needs of and health coverage options currently available to employees of school districts served by that service center and alternative health coverage options that may be available. The study must include, with respect to school districts in that committee's region, the following information:

- an overview of current health coverage plans made available to district employees;
- a survey of district employees using a scale that allows an employee to indicate the employee's level of satisfaction with the current costs to the employee of their health coverage plan and the benefits available and access to care under the plan; and
- an assessment of three alternative health coverage options that are available on the open market or through self-funding of district health care expenses.

A report on the study must be submitted by each respective advisory committee.

**Due Date:** Not later than November 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Standing committees of the house and the senate having primary jurisdiction over public education or public retirement systems

- Commissioner of the Texas Education Agency
- Executive director of the Teacher Retirement System of Texas

**Expiration Date:** January 1, 2023

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**The following entry also related to public education is included in the Labor and Employment chapter:**

- [Tri-Agency Work-Based Learning Strategic Framework](#)

# PUBLIC RETIREMENT SYSTEMS

---

## Report on Alternative Delivery Methods for ERS Group Benefits Program (Employees Retirement System of Texas)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 17, Page I-39

**Description:** Report from the Employees Retirement System of Texas (ERS) on the results of an examination by a third party vendor of alternative methods to deliver current benefits provided under the ERS group benefits program.

**Due Date:** Not later than August 31, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Chair of the Senate Committee on Finance
- Chair of the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services
- Chair of the House Appropriations Committee
- Chair of the House Insurance Committee
- Governor

---

## Report on Alternative Delivery Methods for TRS-ActiveCare Benefits (Teacher Retirement System of Texas)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 21, Page III-39

**Description:** The Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS) must engage a third-party vendor to examine alternative methods to deliver the current TRS-ActiveCare benefits. The report from TRS must contain the vendor's findings.

**Due Date:** Not later than August 31, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Chair of the Senate Committees on Finance
- Chair of the Senate Committee on Education
- Chair of the Senate Committee on Higher Education
- Chair of the House Appropriations Committee
- Chair of the House Public Education Committee
- Chair of the House Higher Education Committees

---

## Report on the Investment Returns of ERS and TRS (Employees Retirement System of Texas and Teacher Retirement System of Texas)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 483](#)

**Description:** Biennial report submitted by the governing bodies of the Employees Retirement System of Texas (ERS) and the Teacher Retirement System of Texas (TRS), respectively, detailing and comparing the assumed rate of return and the annualized actual time-weighted rate of investment returns achieved by the system for the most recent 1-year, 5-year, 10-year, and 20-year fiscal periods. The report must include, for each period, an estimate of what the market value of the invested assets of the fund would have been as of the most recent fiscal year end had the system achieved the applicable assumed rate of return and a comparison of each such estimate and the actual market value of the invested assets in the fund as of the most recent fiscal year end. The report may be combined with any other required report.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 31 of each even-numbered year

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Legislature

---

**The following entries also related to public retirement systems are included in the Appropriations and State Finance chapter:**

- [List of Financial Companies that Boycott Energy Companies](#)
- [Report of Assets Divested from Financial Companies that Boycott Energy Companies](#)
- [Report on a Delay in the Scheduled Divestment from Financial Companies that Boycott Energy Companies](#)
- [Report on the Cessation of Divestment from Financial Companies that Boycott Energy Companies](#)

# PUBLIC SAFETY

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## Report on Certain Firearm Statistics (Department of Public Safety)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 1927](#), SECTIONS 7 and 27

**Description:** Annual report from the Department of Public Safety that includes the number of persons who applied for a handgun license in the preceding calendar year compared to the yearly average number of people who applied for a handgun license from 2010 through 2020 and any other relevant information related to the carrying of a firearm by persons in Texas.

**Due Date:** Not later than February 1 of each year beginning in 2023

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2028

---

## Report of Unanalyzed Sexual Assault Evidence Collection Kits (Department of Public Safety)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 2462](#), SECTION 13

**Description:** Annual report from the Department of Public Safety entitled the “Statewide Electronic Tracking System Report” identifying the number of evidence collection kits relating to a sexual assault or other sex offense that have not yet been submitted for laboratory analysis or for which the laboratory analysis has not yet been completed, as applicable.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1 of each year

**Recipients:**

- Governor
  - Lieutenant Governor
  - Speaker of the House of Representatives
  - Legislature
- 

## Study and Report on Peace Officer Salaries (Texas Commission on Law Enforcement)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 11, Page V-39

**Description:** Study by the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement on the salaries of peace officers in Texas and throughout the United States, including comparisons among salaries of peace officers

employed by varying sizes of law enforcement agencies and comparisons across regions with varying costs of living. The report must include the results of the study.

**Due Date:** Not later than November 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board
- Standing legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement

---

## **Report on Peer Support Network for Law Enforcement Officers** (Texas Commission on Law Enforcement)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 64](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Annual report from the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement (TCOLE) on the peer support network for law enforcement officers created by TCOLE under the bill. The report must include the number of law enforcement officers who receive peer support through the network, the number of peers and peer service coordinators trained, an evaluation of the peer support services provided, and recommendations for program improvements.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1 of each year

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislature

---

## **Review and Report on Fingerprinting Services Provided by Vendor Contracting with the Department of Public Safety** (Department of Public Safety)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 922](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** If the Department of Public Safety (DPS) enters into a contract with a vendor to provide fingerprinting services for use in accessing criminal history record information, DPS must annually review and prepare a report on the services provided by the vendor that includes a determination on the vendor's ability to adequately address the need for fingerprinting services throughout Texas.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Legislature

---

**The following entries also related to public safety are included in the indicated chapters:**

- [Study and Report on Protective Order Enforcement \(Courts\)](#)
- [Report on the Results of an Audit of Local Emergency Communication Systems \(Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery\)](#)



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# STATE GOVERNMENT

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## Report on Investment and Funding Strategies for Projects to Improve or Modernize State Agency Information Resources Technologies

(Joint Oversight Committee on Investment in Information Technology Improvement and Modernization Projects)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 4018](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Biennial report by the Joint Oversight Committee on Investment in Information Technology Improvement and Modernization Projects, which is created by the bill to review investment and funding strategies for projects to improve or modernize state agency information resources technologies. The report must do the following:

- identify existing and planned projects to improve or modernize state agency information resources technologies and the method of funding for each identified project;
- include a determination by the committee of the amount necessary to fully fund each identified project to completion; and
- include strategies developed by the committee to ensure a long-term investment solution for projects to improve or modernize state agency information resources technologies is in place.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2026

---

## Plan Regarding Transition of Information Technology and Data-Related Services and Capabilities

(Each state agency in the executive and legislative branches of state government)

---

**Legislation:** [House Bill 4018](#), SECTION 2

**Description:** Agency-wide plan prepared by each state agency in the executive and legislative branches of state government outlining the manner in which the respective agency intends to transition its information technology and data-related services and capabilities into a more modern, integrated, secure, and effective technological environment.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated for plan submission, however the plan must be prepared not later than October 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Department of Information Resources
- Joint Oversight Committee on Investment in Information Technology Improvement and Modernization Projects
- Standing committees of the house and the senate with primary jurisdiction over state agency information technology

---

## **Study and Report on the Formation of a Texas Bicentennial Commission** (Committee to Study the Formation of a Texas Bicentennial Commission)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 4056](#), SECTION 3

**Description:** Study by a committee established by the bill regarding the formation of a Texas Bicentennial Commission to plan the state's celebration of the 2036 bicentennial, including the commission's composition, the manner of appointing commission members, the total number of members, and the commission's scope and duties. The report must contain recommendations on those areas of study and any other recommendations the committee considers appropriate.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 30, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** January 1, 2023

---

## **Report on Use of Public Information Act Exceptions (Attorney General)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 38, Page I-13

**Description:** Annual report from the attorney general on the number of rulings issued during the calendar year by the open records division of the attorney general's office permitting the withholding of information held by a law enforcement agency or prosecutor on the basis that the information concerns an investigation that did not result in conviction or deferred adjudication. The report must include the attorney general's file identification number or opinion identification number, the date of each ruling, and the name of the agency or other governmental body that sought the ruling.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 31 of each year

**Recipient:** Legislature

---

## **Review and Report on Statutes, Rules, Protocols, and Bylaws Applicable to Conflicts of Interest of Certain Utility Officials** (Public Utility Commission of Texas and ERCOT)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 3](#), SECTION 34

**Description:** Annual review by the Public Utility Commission of Texas (PUC) and ERCOT of statutes, rules, protocols, and bylaws that apply to conflicts of interest for PUC commissioners and members of ERCOT's governing body. The report must address the effects those statutes, rules, protocols, and bylaws have on the ability of the PUC and ERCOT to fulfill their duties.

**Due Date:** No specific due date stated

**Recipient:** Legislature

---

## Report on the Texas Volunteer Cybersecurity Incident Response Team (Department of Information Resources)

---

**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 475](#), SECTION 12

**Description:** Report from the Department of Information Resources (DIR) on its activities related to the Texas volunteer incident response team, which is established by DIR under the bill's provisions to provide rapid response assistance under DIR direction to a state agency or local government during a cybersecurity event. The report must include recommendations related to the team.

**Due Date:** Not later than October 15, 2022

**Recipients:** Standing committees of the house and the senate with primary jurisdiction over state agency cybersecurity

---

## Study and Report on Public Safety Net Programs (Legislative Budget Board)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1138](#), SECTIONS 2 and 3

**Description:** Using existing resources, the Legislative Budget Board (LBB), in coordination with the Health and Human Services Commission and other applicable state agencies, must conduct a study on safety net programs available in Texas during the five-year period preceding the bill's effective date in order to streamline eligibility requirements, resources, and benefits; improve recipient outcomes; and reduce costs to taxpayers. The report must contain the LBB's findings and recommendations.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** January 1, 2023

---

## Report Regarding the Management of State-Owned Artifact Collections (State-Owned Artifact Collections Management Task Force)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1177](#), SECTION 6

**Description:** Report containing the findings and determinations of the task force established by the bill to manage state-owned artifact collections. For each state agency represented on the task force, which includes the Texas Historical Commission, General Land Office, Texas State Library and Archives Commission, Parks and Wildlife Department, State Preservation Board, and Texas Facilities Commission, the task force must do the following:

- evaluate the need for a separate collections facility for the agency and compare use of a separate collection facility to a secure centrally located joint collections facility with a processing laboratory for repair, cleaning, re-housing, and light conservation of state artifacts;

- analyze the storage capacity for the agency’s collections to determine whether the agency’s collections facility is adequate for the successful stewardship of its collections over the next five years and 10 years;
- review the option of establishing a disaster-secure collections facility with separate storage areas for each agency;
- review recommendations in the Texas Historical Commission’s December 2018 response to the Sunset Advisory Commission decisions on creating a searchable public catalog of state-owned collections to determine cost estimates for implementing the recommendations and a process for implementation; and
- assess any unmet need of the agency regarding state-owned collections as determined by the task force.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Standing committees of each house of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over the history and culture of Texas

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

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**The following entries also related to state government are included in the indicated chapters:**

- [Report on Complaints Filed with the SCJC Not Finalized by a Certain Deadline \(Courts\)](#)
- [Report on Statutory Changes to Improve the SCJC Complaint Process \(Courts\)](#)
- [Report on the Results of an Efficiency Audit of DFPS and Recommendations for Efficiency Improvements \(Health and Human Services\)](#)
- [Health Professions Council Regulatory Database Consolidation Report \(Occupational Regulation\)](#)
- [Report on the Findings of an Effectiveness Audit of the TBVME \(Occupational Regulation\)](#)

# TRANSPORTATION

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## **Study and Report on the Impact of Certain Classifications of Motor Vehicle on Roads and Bridges in Texas (Texas Department of Transportation)**

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 2223](#)

**Description:** Study by the Texas Department of Transportation, in consultation with the Texas A&M Transportation Institute, The University of Texas Center for Transportation Research, and transportation industry representatives, on the impact on the roads and bridges in Texas by motor vehicles classified as passenger vehicles, commercial motor vehicles, and oversize or overweight vehicles. For each such vehicle classification, the study must determine the following:

- the number of vehicles that drive on Texas roads and bridges each year;
- the number of miles driven on Texas roads and bridges each year;
- the total revenue contribution from taxes and fees to the construction and maintenance of Texas roads and bridges;
- the financial impact due to costs associated with construction and maintenance of the roads and bridges in Texas and congestion on those roads and bridges; and
- whether and by what amount that total revenue contribution exceeds or falls short of that financial impact.

The study must also assess the overall economic benefits to the state economy of commercial motor vehicles and oversize or overweight vehicles and recommend one or more changes to existing tax or fee structures to ensure that vehicles of each studied classification contribute revenue to fund the construction and maintenance of the roads and bridges in Texas in an amount at least equal to the financial impact of the vehicles of that classification on those roads and bridges. The report must contain the study's findings and recommendations for policy and statutory changes, including any proposed legislation, based on those results.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Legislature

**Expiration Date:** May 1, 2023

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## **Assessment and Report Regarding the Development of Urban Air Mobility Operations and Infrastructure (Urban Air Mobility Advisory Committee)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 763](#), SECTION 1

**Description:** Assessment by the urban air mobility advisory committee, which is appointed by the Texas Transportation Commission under the bill's provisions, of current state law and any changes to state law that are needed to facilitate the development of urban air mobility operations and

infrastructure in Texas. The report must contain the committee’s findings and recommendations on necessary changes to state law based on the assessment.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Legislature
- Texas Transportation Commission

**Expiration Date:** January 1, 2023

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## **Study and Report on the Impacts of Using Certain Emerging Motor Vehicle Technologies**

(Texas Department of Transportation and Department of Public Safety)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1308](#)

**Description:** Joint study by the Texas Department of Transportation and Department of Public Safety, in consultation with the Texas A&M Transportation Institute and appropriate federal agencies, on the following topics:

- the potential benefits of using automated driving systems, connected driving systems, and other emerging technologies to alleviate motor vehicle traffic congestion at ports of entry between Texas and the United Mexican States; and
- the overall impact of using those systems and technologies on the transportation industry workforce and the broader Texas economy, including the effects on driver and public safety.

The report must contain the study’s results.

**Due Date:** Not later than January 1, 2023

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Legislature

**Expiration Date:** September 1, 2023

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## **Study and Report on the Feasibility of Colocated Vehicle Inspection Facilities at Ports of Entry (Texas A&M Transportation Institute)**

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1907](#)

**Description:** Subject to the availability of funds, the Texas A&M Transportation Institute, in consultation with the Texas Department of Transportation and the Department of Public Safety, must conduct a feasibility study on erecting and maintaining a colocated federal and state inspection facility at each port of entry in Texas for the inspection of motor vehicles for compliance

with federal and state commercial motor vehicle regulations. The report must contain the study's results and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

**Due Date:** Not later than December 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

**Expiration Date:** January 1, 2023



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# UTILITIES

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## **Report on the Implementation of Designation and Prioritization Requirements Regarding Certain Critical Natural Gas Facilities and Entities** (Public Utility Commission of Texas)

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**Legislation:** [House Bill 3648](#), SECTION 3

**Description:** Report by the Public Utility Commission of Texas regarding its implementation of the bill's requirements to establish a process for the designation of certain natural gas facilities and associated entities as critical during an energy emergency and the prioritization of those facilities and entities for load-shedding and power restoration purposes.

**Due Date:** Not later than January 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

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## **Study and Report on Load Shed Protocols** (Public Utility Commission of Texas)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 1](#), Rider 4, Page VIII-53

**Description:** Study by the Public Utility Commission of Texas on the effects of load shed protocols in ERCOT. The report must contain the conclusions of the study.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

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## **Report on the Reliability and Stability of the Electricity Supply Chain in Texas** (Texas Energy Reliability Council)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 3](#), SECTION 3

**Description:** Biennial report on the reliability and stability of the state's electricity supply chain submitted by the Texas Energy Reliability Council, which is established by the bill to ensure that the energy and electric industries in Texas meet high priority human needs and address critical infrastructure concerns and to enhance coordination and communication in those industries in Texas. The report must include recommendations on methods to strengthen the electricity supply chain and to decrease the frequency of extended power outages caused by a disaster in Texas.

**Due Date:** Not later than November 1 of each even-numbered year

**Recipient:** Legislature

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## Report on the Activities and Findings of the Texas Electricity Supply Chain Security and Mapping Committee

(Texas Electricity Supply Chain Security and Mapping Committee)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 3](#), SECTION 17

**Description:** Report by the Texas Electricity Supply Chain Security and Mapping Committee, which is established by the bill to map the state's electricity supply, identify critical infrastructure sources in that supply chain, establish best practices to prepare certain facilities in the supply chain to maintain service in an extreme weather event, recommend oversight and compliance standards for those facilities, and designate priority service needs to prepare for, respond to, and recover from extreme weather events. The report must include the following:

- an overview of the committee's findings regarding mapping the supply chain and identifying sources necessary to operate critical infrastructure;
- recommendations for a clear and thorough communication system for the Public Utility Commission of Texas, the Railroad Commission of Texas, the Texas Division of Emergency Management, ERCOT, and critical infrastructure sources to ensure that electricity supply is prioritized to those sources during extreme weather events; and
- a list of the established best practices and recommended oversight and compliance standards.

**Due Date:** Not later than January 1, 2022

**Recipients:**

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the House of Representatives
- Legislature
- Texas Energy Reliability Council

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## State Energy Plan (State Energy Plan Advisory Committee)

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**Legislation:** [Senate Bill 3](#), SECTION 33

**Description:** Comprehensive state energy plan prepared and submitted by the State Energy Plan Advisory Committee, which is created by the bill for that purpose. The plan must include the following:

- an evaluation of barriers in the electricity and natural gas markets that prevent sound economic decisions and recommendations for removing those barriers;
- an evaluation of methods to improve market reliability and affordability of electric service in Texas and recommendations for using those methods; and
- an evaluation of the electricity market structure and pricing mechanisms used in Texas, including the ancillary services market and emergency response services.

**Due Date:** Not later than September 1, 2022

**Recipient:** Legislature

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**The following entries also related to utilities are included in the indicated chapters:**

- Study and Report on Mitigation of Catastrophic Weather Events (Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery)
- Report on the Effects of Authorizing Transmission and Distribution Utilities to Lease, Operate, Procure, or Own Facilities to Aid in Restoring Power During or Following a Widespread Power Outage (Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery)
- Power Weatherization Preparedness Report (Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery)
- Natural Gas Facilities Weatherization Preparedness Report (Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery)
- Study and Report on Abandoned Oil and Gas Wells and the Use of the Oil and Gas Regulation and Cleanup Fund (Environment)
- Review and Report on Statutes, Rules, Protocols, and Bylaws Applicable to Conflicts of Interest of Certain Utility Officials (State Government)

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