

# 89<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature & Kids

Leela Rice, Texas Council of Community Centers

# 89<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature

Session started January 14, 2025 and ended June 2

Two special sessions – July 21 - August 15 & August 15 - September 4

90<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session runs January 12 – May 31, 2027

# Themes

Children's BH Strategic Plan

High-Acuity Children and Youth

School Safety

Foster System and CPS

Juvenile Justice

Parents' Rights

# Budget

\$40M for Youth Crisis Outreach Teams (YCOTs)

\$34M for residential facility for youth in DFPS conservatorship

\$5M for youth crisis respite in Beaumont area

\$18M for ECI caseload growth

\$1.2M for Multisystemic Therapy (MST) in Williamson County

\$30M for Applied Behavioral Analysis (ABA) rate increase to \$14.50 per unit

# New Laws

HB 109: Requires DSHS to designate state facilities in addition to Waco Center for Youth (WCY) to serve as residential treatment facilities for the population served by WCY.

HB 1188: Directs a school district to refer students receiving special education who have/are suspected of having IDD to a Local IDD Authority for services or public benefits.

HB 2809: Updates DFPS reporting requirements to include the number of children in conservatorship who attempt suicide.

SB 12: Strengthens parental control in schools, limits DEI activities, requires parental consent for a variety of healthcare services, including mental health

# New Laws

SB 207: Requires a district to excuse a child's temporary absence resulting from an appointment with mental health professionals.

SB 260: Increases the school safety allotment from \$10 per student to \$20, and from \$15,000 per campus to \$33,540.

SB 646: Adds LMSWs, LPC-As, LMFT-As, and school counselors with at least a master's degree related to counseling to the people who may be eligible for repayment assistance.

# New Laws

HB 5342: Establishes a trust fund to support 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline operations and directs a study on implementation of funding mechanisms to support 988 operations, including evaluating the feasibility of establishing a telecommunication service fee.

SB 1164: Amends Health & Safety Code Ch. 573 to add "the person's inability to recognize symptoms or appreciate the risks and benefits of treatment" to the evidence of severe emotional distress and deterioration that may demonstrate a substantial risk of serious harm to self or others.

SB 2069: Creates a workgroup to study the feasibility of implementing a regional or statewide acute psychiatric bed registry

HB 3801: Establishes the Health Professions Workforce Coordinating Council to study and develop a strategic approach for ensuring a thriving healthcare system and workforce.

# New Laws

HB 2305: Requires a treatment facility that refuses to admit a minor for voluntary services to provide written notice of the parent/LAR's right to seek services at another facility.

HB 3062: Requires each institution of higher education to provide research-based instruction on fentanyl prevention and drug poisoning awareness.

SB 1401: Requires THECB to establish the Texas Mental Health Profession Pipeline Program and encourage institutions to develop such programs to provide clear pathways for public junior college students to pursue further degrees leading to licensure and practice.

Looking  
Forward

HHSC Sunset

Interim Session

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