

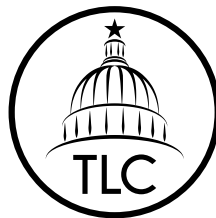
Interim Studies Established by the 86th Legislature

2019



Interim Studies Established by the 86th Legislature

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Foreword

This publication catalogs interim studies and reports required by laws passed by the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, including House Bill 1 (the General Appropriations Act), that provide for a one-time or initial report to the legislature in 2019 or 2020. It covers studies to be conducted by state agencies, joint legislative committees, and other state governmental entities but not studies by standing or special legislative committees conducted solely as a result of charges issued by the lieutenant governor and speaker of the house. It also does not include ongoing reports required by previously enacted study provisions that do not expire.

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

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

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

Legislation—The bill and specific section(s), article, or rider enacted by the 86th 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, it 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

Report Evaluating a TDA Grant Program to Reduce Wait Times for Agricultural Inspections of Vehicles at Ports of Entry Along the Texas-Mexico Border (Department of Agriculture)

Legislation: [House Bill 2155](#), Section 1

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Department of Agriculture (TDA) may make a grant to a nonprofit organization for the purpose of promoting 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 TDA shall evaluate the performance of the grant program and submit a report. The report must include an evaluation of agricultural inspections affected by the grant program, including the extent to which the program is reducing wait times for agricultural inspections of vehicles at ports of entry along the border with the United Mexican States.

Due Date: Not later than January 15, 2021

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Appropriations and State Finance

Report in a Bill Relating to a Nonsubstantive Revision of Statutes on an Audit of the Sulphur River Basin Authority (Sulphur River Basin Authority)

Legislation: [House Bill 4172](#), Section 1.03

Description: Annual report providing a copy of the audit report prepared under Subchapter G, Chapter 49, Water Code, and additional information on the amount of money received by the Sulphur River Basin Authority during the preceding fiscal year and how, to whom, and for what purpose the money was spent.

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Attorney general
- Comptroller

Strategic Fiscal Review Report for a State Agency (Legislative Budget Board)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 68](#), Section 1

Description: Biennial report on the findings of a strategic fiscal review conducted by the Legislative Budget Board for each state agency currently subject to review under the Texas Sunset Act unless such an agency is not also subject to the legislative appropriations process. A strategic fiscal review report for a state agency must contain the following:

- a description of the discrete activities the state agency is charged with conducting or performing together with a justification for each activity by reference to a statute or other legal authority and an evaluation of the effectiveness and efficiency of the state agency's policies, management, fiscal affairs, and operations in relation to each activity;
- a quantitative estimate of any adverse effects that reasonably may be expected to result if each activity were discontinued, together with a description of the methods by which the adverse effects were estimated;
- an itemized account of expenditures required to maintain each activity at the minimum level of service or performance and at the current level of service or performance, together with a concise statement of the quantity and quality of

service or performance required at that minimum level and provided at that current level;

- a ranking of the identified activities that illustrates the relative importance of each activity to the overall goals and purposes of the state agency at current service or performance levels; and
- recommendations to the legislature regarding whether the legislature should continue funding each identified activity and, if so, at what level.

Due Date: Not later than September 1 of the even-numbered year of the biennium during which the Sunset review is conducted.

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Members of the Senate Finance Committee
- Members of the House Appropriations Committee

**Revised Reporting Requirement for Recovery Audits
of State Agency Payments to Vendors
(Comptroller of Public Accounts)**

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1571](#), Section 3

Description: Biennial report regarding recovery audits of state agency payments to vendors for the purpose of detecting and recovering overpayments to the vendors and recommending improved state agency accounting operations. The comptroller is now authorized, rather than required, to contract with one or more consultants to conduct the recovery audits and to require the audits when a state agency has expenditures during a state fiscal biennium in an amount that exceeds \$50 million, rather than \$100 million. The comptroller is also authorized to determine the frequency of the recovery audits. The report by the comptroller will now be issued not later than February 1 of each odd-numbered year, rather than by January 1 of such a year, and will summarize the activities conducted, rather than the contents of all reports received, relating to the recovery of certain state agency overpayments. The period covered by the report is the state fiscal biennium ending August 31 of the previous year.

Due Date: Next report due not later than February 1, 2021

Recipient: Legislature

Business and Commerce

Report on the Progress of Broadband Development in Unserved Areas (Governor's Broadband Development Council)

Legislation: [House Bill 1960](#), Sections 1 and 2

Description: Annual report by the governor's broadband development council created by the bill to research the progress of broadband development in unserved areas, identify barriers to residential and commercial broadband deployment in unserved areas, study technology-neutral solutions to overcome the identified barriers, and analyze how statewide access to broadband would benefit the following: economic development; the delivery of educational opportunities in higher education and public education; state and local law enforcement; state emergency preparedness; and the delivery of health care services, including telemedicine and telehealth. Report shall contain the council's findings and recommendations.

Due Date: Not later than November 1 of each year

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2029

Report in a Bill Relating to a Nonsubstantive Revision of Statutes on Plans and Needs for Future Securities Regulation (State Securities Board)

Legislation: [House Bill 4171](#), Section 1.01

Description: Annual report by the State Securities Board, with the advice of the securities commissioner, about the administration of The Securities Act and plans and needs for future securities regulation. The report must include a detailed accounting of all funds received and disbursed by the board during the preceding year.

Due Date: Next report due not later than January 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house

Findings and Recommendations Related to the Privacy and Protection of Personal Identifying Information (Texas Privacy Protection Advisory Council)

Legislation: [House Bill 4390](#), Section 2

Description: Report by the Texas Privacy Protection Advisory Council created by the bill to study data privacy laws in Texas, other states, and relevant foreign jurisdictions. The council shall study and evaluate laws that govern the privacy and protection of information that alone or in conjunction with other information identifies or is linked or reasonably linkable to a specific individual, technological device, or household and make recommendations on specific statutory changes regarding the privacy and protection of that information. Report shall provide the council's findings and recommendations.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients: Legislature

Expiration Date: December 31, 2020

Report on Security of the Texas Electric Grid (Texas Electric Grid Security Council)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 475](#), Section 1

Description: Biennial report by the Texas Electric Grid Security Council established by the bill as an advisory body to facilitate the creation, aggregation, coordination, and dissemination of best security practices for the electric industry. The council is to issue recommendations on a request of the governor, lieutenant governor, or the chair of the house of representatives committee or chair of the senate committee having jurisdiction over energy utility regulation, as prescribed by the bill. The council may prepare a report outlining grid security response efforts that do not involve classified or highly sensitive, company-specific information.

Due Date: On or before the December 1 immediately preceding a regular session of the legislature, if the Texas Electric Grid Security Council prepares the report

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Legislature

Courts

OAG Review of State Securities Board Assistance to County and District Attorneys (Attorney General)

Legislation: [House Bill 1535](#), Section 5

Description: Report authorized by the bill if the attorney general has any concerns in connection with the State Securities Board's assistance to county and district attorneys following referral by the securities board of an alleged Securities Act violation to a county or district attorney for prosecution. Report relates to the attorney general's review, at least biennially, of a sample of criminal cases for which the securities board provided requested assistance to a county or district attorney prosecuting an alleged violation of the Securities Act. The review must include an evaluation of the pre-referral determination of available resources to support each case being reviewed and any subsequent determination of those resources made by the Securities Commissioner.

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipients: Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over State Securities Board matters

Interim Study and Report Regarding the Method by Which Certain Trial and Appellate Judges Are Selected (Texas Commission on Judicial Selection)

Legislation: [House Bill 3040](#), Section 1

Description: Interim study by the Texas Commission on Judicial Selection regarding the method by which certain trial and appellate judges are selected for office in Texas. The study must consider the fairness, effectiveness, and desirability of selecting a judicial officer through partisan elections and through judicial selection methods proposed or adopted by other states. The study must also consider alternative methods for selecting a judicial officer, including appointment, election, or a combination of appointment and election as specified by the bill. The merits of using a public member board to nominate or assess the qualifications of candidates for judicial office also must be considered in the study. The report shall provide the commission's findings and recommendations, including specific constitutional and statutory changes that appear necessary from the results of the study.

Due Date: Not later than December 31, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature

Expiration Date: January 2, 2021

**Report on the Performance of the Guardianship Abuse, Fraud,
and Exploitation Deterrence Program**
(Office of Court Administration)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 31](#), Section 1

Description: Annual report on the performance of the guardianship abuse, fraud, and exploitation deterrence program established by the Office of Court Administration under the bill to provide additional resources and assistance to courts that have jurisdiction over guardianship proceedings. Report must include the following:

- the number of courts involved in the program;
- the number of guardianships reviewed by guardianship compliance specialists described by the bill;
- the number of reviewed guardianship cases found to be out of compliance with statutory reporting requirements;
- the number of cases reported to a court concerning potential abuse, fraud, or exploitation, including financial exploitation, committed against a ward; and
- the status of any technology developed to monitor guardianship cases for purposes of the program.

Due Date: Not later than January 1 of each year

Recipient: Legislature

Report on Court Security Activities
(Director of Security and Emergency Preparedness, Judicial Security Division,
Office of Court Administration)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 489](#), Section 2

Description: Annual report on court security activities throughout Texas supported by the judicial security division, Office of Court Administration. Report shall include the technical aspects of providing court security, court security training provided or required by the

judicial security division, sufficiency of judicial security division resources to evaluate and monitor court security, and the adequacy of funding to maintain court security. The report shall also include recommendations for monitoring the use of state resources in providing court security, improving court security, and increasing the amount of state funds and other resources made available for court security.

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipient: Legislature

Plan and Report on Court-Ordered Representation in Suits Affecting the Parent-Child Relationship Filed by a Governmental Entity (Texas Judicial Council)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 560](#), Sections 1 and 2

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Texas Judicial Council shall develop a statewide plan requiring counties and courts in Texas to report information on court-ordered representation in suits affecting the parent-child relationship filed by a governmental entity. Each local administrative district judge for a court subject to the plan, or the person designated by the judge, shall prepare and provide to the council, in the form and manner prescribed by the plan, the following:

- a copy of all formal and informal rules the court uses to appoint representation in suits affecting the parent-child relationship filed by a governmental entity;
- any fee schedule the court uses for court-ordered representation; and
- information on whether the court is complying with Chapter 37, Government Code, relating to appointments of attorneys ad litem, guardians ad litem, mediators, and guardians.

Each county auditor, or other individual designated by the commissioners court of a county, shall prepare and send to the council, in the form and manner prescribed by the plan, information on the money spent by the county during the preceding state fiscal year to provide court-ordered representation in suits affecting the parent-child relationship filed by a governmental entity. The information must include the following:

- the total amount of money spent by the county to provide court-ordered representation services; and
- of that total amount of money spent, the amount of money spent for the following: appointments in each district court, county court, statutory county court, and appellate court in the county; appointments of private attorneys or public counsel for respondents, including parents, children, and alleged fathers, who are indigent; and investigation, expert witness, or other litigation expenses.

The council annually shall compile in a report the information submitted to the council under the plan. A county or court in Texas is not required to comply with the bill until September 1, 2020, or a later date provided in the plan developed under the bill.

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house

**Study and Report on the Caseloads of the District
and Statutory County Courts in Texas**
(Office of Court Administration)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 891](#), Section 9.06

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Office of Court Administration (OCA) shall contract with the National Center for State Courts to conduct a study of the caseloads of the district and statutory county courts in Texas. The study must concentrate on the weighted caseload of each court, considering the nature and complexity of the cases heard. The report filed by OCA shall provide the results of the study.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2021

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Chairs of the standing committees of the senate and the house with jurisdiction over the judicial system

Criminal Justice

Report on Monitoring Temperature and Temperature-Related Deaths in TDCJ Facilities

(Texas Department of Criminal Justice)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 58, Page V-20

Description: Annual report providing information on offender complaints related to temperature, cases of environmental hyperthermia or death caused by temperature or exacerbated by temperature, and agency procedures used to manage temperature and mitigate excessive heat in the department's facilities.

Due Date: Not later than December 31 of each year

Recipient: Legislature

Report on the Effectiveness of Pilot Programs in Dallas and Houston to Provide Reentry Services to Offenders Released from TDCJ Facilities

(Texas Department of Criminal Justice)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 59, Page V-20

Description: Annual report on the effectiveness of pilot programs in Dallas and Houston to provide reentry services to offenders released from Texas Department of Criminal Justice facilities. Report shall include the recidivism rate for each of the programs.

Due Date: Not later than January 1 of each fiscal year

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board

Review of TDCJ Procedures Related to Warrants Issued for Parole Violations

(Texas Department of Criminal Justice)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 60, Page V-21

Description: Review by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, in coordination with relevant stakeholders, of the department's procedures related to warrants issued for

parole violations, or blue warrants. Report shall include recommendations for expediting the blue warrant process, for streamlining the blue warrant process, or for both expediting and streamlining the blue warrant process, specifically regarding administrative violations and misdemeanors.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature
- Chairs of appropriate committees of the senate and the house
- Legislative Budget Board

**Evaluation of the Effectiveness of the TDCJ Mental Health
Therapeutic Diversion Program**
(Texas Department of Criminal Justice)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 64, Page V-21

Description: Evaluation of the effectiveness of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice's mental health therapeutic diversion program. Report shall contain a qualitative analysis of the services provided under the program and include annual program performance measures.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board

**Report on the Results of an Audit Examining the Investigation
and Processing of Reported Sexual Assaults**
(State Auditor)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 5, Page X-6

Description: Report on the results of an audit by the State Auditor examining the investigation and processing of reported adult sexual assaults and child sexual assaults in Texas. The audit shall examine a five-year period from 2014 through 2018 and include data from city and county jurisdictions across Texas. The audit and report shall include an

examination of why reported cases do not proceed to prosecution and conviction within the criminal justice system.

Due Date: Not later than November 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Senate Finance Committee
- House Appropriations Committee
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with oversight responsibility for any entity or program that is the subject of any portion of the report
- Office of the Attorney General
- Department of Public Safety
- Any other agencies, offices, or task forces working on issues related to sexual assault or that the State Auditor considers to be a relevant recipient of the report

Study and Report on the Effect of TDCJ Visitation Policies on the Relationships Between Inmates or Defendants and Their Children
(Texas Department of Criminal Justice)

Legislation: [House Bill 650](#), Section 2

Description: Study on the effect of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice's (TDCJ) visitation policies on the relationships between inmates or defendants and their children. In conducting the study, TDCJ shall review evidence-based visitation practices that enhance parental bonding and engagement and age-appropriate visitation activities for children that enhance cognitive and motor skills. TDCJ also shall consider implementing changes to the policies to strengthen the relationship between inmates or defendants and their children. Report shall provide the results of the study.

Due Date: Not later than December 31, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over TDCJ

Expiration Date: February 1, 2021

Revised Reporting Requirement Related to TDCJ Inmates Who Have Been in State Conservatorship (Texas Department of Criminal Justice)

Legislation: [House Bill 1191](#), Section 1

Description: Annual report that now will be submitted to the governor, lieutenant governor, and each member of the legislature rather than to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house, and each standing committee having primary jurisdiction over the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). The report must summarize statistical information concerning the total number of TDCJ inmates who have at any time been in the conservatorship of a state agency responsible for providing child protective services and include, disaggregated by age, the number of inmates who have not previously served a term of imprisonment.

Due Date: Next report due not later than December 31, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Legislature

Report on Resources Provided to Survivors of Sexual Assault (Sexual Assault Survivors' Task Force)

Legislation: [House Bill 1590](#), Section 3

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the governor shall establish the Sexual Assault Survivors' Task Force within the governor's criminal justice division. Among other duties, the task force shall biennially contract for a survey of the resources provided to survivors of sexual assault and develop a statewide standard for best practices in the funding and provision of services to survivors. The task force shall analyze the data from the survey and prepare a report, or contract with a private entity for the preparation of a report, that includes the following: a description of the resources provided to survivors of sexual assault; a description of the differences between the resources provided to survivors of sexual assault and the statewide standard for such resources, comparable by region and by year; recommendations on measures the state and each region could take to better comply with the statewide standard; a description of potential sources and mechanisms of funding available to implement the recommendations; and

recommendations for accomplishing policy goals identified by the Sexual Assault Survivors' Task Force as specified by the bill.

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

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2023

Study and Report on Best Practice Standards for the Detention of Persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities

(Task force on best practice standards for the detention of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities)

Legislation: [House Bill 3116](#), Section 1

Description: Report by a task force established by the bill to conduct a comprehensive study on best practice standards for the detention of persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The study must identify and make recommendations regarding the following with respect to such persons: current policies and procedures; barriers to accommodations and justice; best practices used in other states; policies that would improve jail standards; and any other issue the task force considers appropriate. Report shall include a description of the task force's activities, the findings and recommendations of the task force, a plan for how the best practice standards identified by the task force can be implemented statewide, any proposals for legislation, and any other matter the task force considers appropriate.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Presiding officers of the standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over issues relating to criminal justice

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Report on Policies to Increase and Promote Female Inmates' Access to Programs Offered to Inmates in TDCJ Custody (Texas Department of Criminal Justice)

Legislation: [House Bill 3227](#), Sections 2 and 4

Description: Annual report on policies developed and implemented to increase and promote a female inmate's access to programs offered to inmates in the custody of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ). Report must include a description of any TDCJ policies that were created, modified, or eliminated during the preceding year to meet the requirements of the bill and a list of programs available to female inmates in TDCJ custody during the preceding year.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than December 31, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over TDCJ
- Reentry task force described by Section 501.098, Government Code

Review of a Family Violence Pretrial Diversion Pilot Program in Bexar County (Community Justice Assistance Division, Texas Department of Criminal Justice)

Legislation: [House Bill 3529](#), Section 1

Description: Biennial review of a family violence pretrial diversion pilot program in Bexar County for individuals who are charged with an offense involving family violence and who suffer from a substance abuse disorder or chemical dependency. The pilot program shall include specified components to meet the needs of participants. The report must include a summary of the status and results of the pilot program, an analysis of the pilot program's effectiveness as specified by the bill, sources of funding available to extend the pilot program to other counties or for a longer period of time, and any legislative or other recommendations.

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

Recipients:

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

Expiration Date: September 1, 2023

**Report in a Bill Relating to a Nonsubstantive Revision of Statutes
on Crime Victims' Compensation**
(Attorney General)

Legislation: [House Bill 4173](#), Section 1.06

Description: Annual report on the attorney general's crime victims' compensation activities during the preceding fiscal year, including a statistical summary of claims and awards made and denied.

Due Date: Next report due not later than December 9, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature

**Report in a Bill Relating to a Nonsubstantive Revision of Statutes on Gifts, Grants,
and Donations to the Compensation to Victims of Crime Fund**
(Attorney General)

Legislation: [House Bill 4173](#), Section 1.06

Description: Annual report providing a complete and detailed accounting for all gifts, grants, and donations received and disbursed, used, or maintained by the attorney general that are credited to the compensation to victims of crime fund.

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house

Study and Report on How TDCJ Factors the Number of Active Releasees on a Parole Officer's Caseload in Determining Its Appropriations Request and Budget
(Texas Department of Criminal Justice)

Legislation: [House Bill 4754](#), Section 1

Description: Study by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice (TDCJ) on the following: the average number of active releasees on a parole officer's caseload; how TDCJ factors the number of active releasees on a parole officer's caseload in determining its legislative appropriations request and budget; and whether TDCJ is accurately assessing the number of active releasees on a parole officer's caseload to ensure that TDCJ receives an adequate amount of funding to employ a sufficient number of parole officers and that a parole officer is not overburdened or overworked based on the parole officer's caseload. Report must summarize the results of the study.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: December 31, 2020

Emergency Management and Disaster Recovery

Study and Report on Issues Related to Removal of Wet Debris Following a Disaster

(Wet Debris Study Group or Wet Debris Work Group)

Legislation: [House Bill 5](#), Section 1; [Senate Bill 6](#), Section 2; [Senate Bill 799](#), Section 7

Description: **House Bill 5:** Study by the wet debris study group established by the bill regarding issues related to removal of wet debris, including best practices for clearing wet debris following a disaster and determining responsibility for that removal. Report shall contain recommendations on the issues. **Senate Bill 6:** Study by the wet debris study group established by the bill regarding issues related to preventing the creation of wet debris and best practices for clearing wet debris following a disaster, including the following: the creation of maintenance programs for bodies of water in Texas; issues related to the clearance of wet debris on private property following a disaster; and potential sources of funding for the clearance of web debris following a disaster. Report shall contain recommendations on the issues. **Senate Bill 799:** Study by the wet debris work group established by the bill to identify the following: wet debris removal categories for bodies of water in Texas and the applicable laws for each category; current jurisdictions of entities responsible for wet debris removal; funding sources applicable to each wet debris removal category; and issues that impede wet debris removal. Study shall provide recommendations for minimizing impediments to wet debris removal; clarifying entities' roles and responsibilities for wet debris removal; and educating interested persons on the results of the study. Report shall contain the results of the study.

Due Dates: **House Bill 5:** Not later than December 1, 2020; **Senate Bill 6, Senate Bill 799:** Not later than November 1, 2020

Recipients: Legislature

Expiration Date: January 1, 2021

Study and Report on Local Restrictions that Impede Disaster Recovery Efforts

(Work group on local restrictions that impede disaster recovery efforts)

Legislation: [House Bill 5](#), Section 1

Description: Study on local restrictions that impede disaster recovery efforts, including efforts to remove debris and erect short-term housing. Study must include an overview

of official actions by governing bodies of political subdivisions and requirements imposed by deed restrictions or property owners' associations that impede state and federal disaster recovery efforts in Texas. Recommendations for minimizing the effect of these actions and requirements must also be included in the study. Report shall provide the results of the study.

Due Date: Not later than November 1, 2020

Recipients: Legislature

Expiration Date: January 1, 2021

Study and Proposal Related to Enhancing the Training and Credentialing of Emergency Management Personnel

(Emergency Management Work Group)

Legislation: [House Bill 2305](#), Sections 2 and 3; [Senate Bill 6](#), Section 2

Description: Study and proposal related to enhancing the training and credentialing of emergency management directors, coordinators, and personnel. As part of the study, an emergency management work group established by the Texas Division of Emergency Management shall review current required training courses to assess the training and credentials necessary for emergency management personnel to effectively oversee the response to and recovery from a disaster. The work group shall also consult with public institutions of higher education on the development of additional degree programs in emergency management. The work group must submit a proposal based on the study.

Due Date: Not later than November 1, 2020

Recipients (House Bill 2305):

- Governor
- Legislature

Recipients (Senate Bill 6):

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

Expiration Date: January 1, 2021

Report on Improving Building Trade Services Following a Disaster (Texas Division of Emergency Management)

Legislation: [House Bill 2320](#), Section 1

Description: Report by the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), in consultation with the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation and any other state agencies selected by TDEM, as well as with local governments, trade associations, and law enforcement groups, on improving the oversight, accountability, and availability of building trade services following a disaster. Report must include the following: strategies to increase the availability of tradespeople, including plumbers and electricians, following a disaster; approaches to increase prosecutions of alleged fraud related to building trade services offered following a disaster; and methods to encourage performance bond requirements in contracts for building trade services to be performed following a disaster.

Due Date: Not later than November 1, 2020

Recipients: Legislature

Expiration Date: January 1, 2021

Study and Report on the Use of a Standard Communication Format by First Responders (Texas Division of Emergency Management)

Legislation: [House Bill 2325](#), Section 1

Description: Study on the use of a standard communication format by first responders to create a common interoperable operating framework during a disaster. The study must examine the costs and benefits of promoting the use of a standard communication format, identify any costs that first responders may incur in acquiring or upgrading equipment or services complying with a standard communication format, and identify necessary actions to adopt a standard communication format. Report shall include the findings of the study.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Legislature

Expiration Date: December 1, 2020

Study and Report on the Feasibility of Developing a Single Intake Form and Other System(s) for Disaster Assistance
(Health and Human Services Commission
and the Texas Division of Emergency Management)

Legislation: [House Bill 2330](#), Section 1; [Senate Bill 6](#), Section 4

Description: House Bill 2330: Study by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) and the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM), in coordination with the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and other appropriate state and federal agencies, to determine the feasibility of developing a single intake form, an automated intake system, and a state case management system for disaster assistance that is similar to the FEMA case management system. HHSC and TDEM must determine the following: whether FEMA and other appropriate state and federal agencies will accept the single intake form; the cost of developing the single intake form and the cost of developing and maintaining the automated intake system; and the cost of developing and maintaining a state case management system and the extent to which federal reimbursement is available. HHSC and TDEM may implement the intake form, intake system, and case management system if HHSC and TDEM determine, based on the study, that doing so will result in no additional cost to the state. Report must contain the findings of the study and any recommendations to the legislature.

Senate Bill 6: Study by HHSC and TDEM, in coordination with FEMA and other appropriate state and federal agencies, to determine the feasibility of developing a single intake form and an automated intake system for compiling information needed to obtain disaster assistance. HHSC and TDEM must determine whether FEMA and other appropriate state and federal agencies will accept the single intake form. Report must contain the findings of the study and any recommendations to the legislature.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: January 1, 2021

Study and Report on the Appropriate Use of Unmanned Aircraft in Responding to and Recovering from a Disaster
(Unmanned Aircraft Study Group)

Legislation: [House Bill 2340](#), Section 2

Description: Study by the unmanned aircraft study group on issues related to the appropriate use of unmanned aircraft in responding to and recovering from a disaster. The study shall include strategies for coordinating and promoting the use of unmanned aircraft among state agencies, local governments, and private entities in disaster response and recovery. The study group shall recommend changes to state law that would allow state agencies, local governments, and private entities to more effectively use unmanned aircraft in disaster response and recovery. Report must contain the study group's recommendations on the study issues.

Due Date: Not later than November 1, 2020

Recipients: Legislature

Expiration Date: January 1, 2021

**Recommendations for Improving Information Sharing
Among State Agencies Involved in Disaster Management**
(Work group of state agencies involved in disaster management)

Legislation: [House Bill 2340](#), Section 2

Description: Biennial report submitting recommendations for improving the manner in which electronic information is stored by and shared among state agencies and between state agencies and federal agencies to improve the capacity of the agencies to respond to a disaster and coordinate the agencies' responses to a disaster.

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

Recipient: Governor

**Study and Report on the Participation of Faith-Based Organizations
in Disaster Response**
(Task Force on Faith-Based Disaster Response)

Legislation: [House Bill 3616](#), Section 1

Description: Report by the task force on faith-based disaster response established by the bill to assist the Texas Division of Emergency Management by studying the participation of faith-based organizations in disaster response. The task force is charged with the

following: developing and implementing a plan for improving data collection regarding faith-based organizations that participate in disaster response; developing best practices for communicating, cooperating, and collaborating with faith-based organizations to strengthen disaster response in Texas; identifying and addressing inefficiencies in disaster response provided by the state and faith-based organizations; and identifying and addressing gaps in state services that could be provided by faith-based organizations. Report shall provide the task force's activities related to the study and include any recommendations for legislative or other action.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Report on the Success of the Disaster Housing Recovery Planning Process
(General Land Office and the Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center
at Texas A&M University)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 289](#), Section 3

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the General Land Office (GLO), or another agency designated by the governor, and the Hazard Reduction and Recovery Center at Texas A&M University shall prepare and submit a written report that summarizes the success of the disaster housing recovery planning process under which a local government in a first tier coastal county may adopt and submit to the center for certification a local housing recovery plan to provide for the rapid and efficient construction of permanent replacement housing following a disaster. A local housing recovery plan that meets the certification criteria prescribed by the bill shall be sent by the center to the GLO for further review. On completion of the review, the GLO shall accept the plan unless the plan does not satisfy the criteria for a certified plan, provide for the rapid and efficient construction of permanent replacement housing, or comply with applicable state and federal law. A plan accepted by the GLO is valid for four years and may be implemented during that period without further acceptance if a disaster occurs. Report shall recommend any statutory or legislative changes necessary to improve the planning process, including whether to expand the number of local governments eligible to participate in the planning process.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2021

Recipient: Legislature

Report Relating to Actions State and Local Governments Can Take to Assist Businesses in Recovering From a Disaster (Business Advisory Council)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 799](#), Section 7

Description: The bill transfers administration of the Texas Division of Emergency Management (TDEM) from the Department of Public Safety to The Texas A&M University System and establishes the business advisory council to provide advice and expertise on actions state and local governments can take to assist businesses in recovering from a disaster. The business advisory council shall do the following:

- advise TDEM on policies, rules, and program operations to assist businesses in recovering from a disaster;
- advise TDEM on the state resources and services needed to assist businesses in recovering from a catastrophic loss of electric power; and
- propose solutions to address inefficiencies or problems in the state or local government disaster response with respect to impact on businesses and the economy.

The advisory council's biennial report shall include the business advisory council's activities, advice, and proposed solutions.

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

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- TDEM

Study and Report on Disaster Issues Affecting Persons Who Are Elderly and Persons with Disabilities

(Task force on disaster issues affecting persons who are elderly and persons with disabilities)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 982](#), Section 2

Description: Study by a task force established by the bill to study methods to more effectively assist persons who are elderly and persons with disabilities during a disaster or emergency evacuation and accommodate persons who are elderly and persons with

disabilities in emergency shelters. The study must examine and make recommendations on the following:

- the provision of informational materials to persons who are elderly and persons with disabilities before a disaster occurs on disaster or emergency evacuation;
- the accessibility of transportation and medical supplies to persons who are elderly and persons with disabilities during a disaster;
- different solutions for accommodating persons who are elderly and persons with disabilities during a disaster or emergency evacuation of a rural or urban area;
- the ability to effectively communicate with persons who are elderly and persons with disabilities during a disaster; and
- the availability of volunteers to assist persons who are elderly and persons with disabilities during an emergency evacuation.

Report shall include recommendations developed by the task force.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

Expiration Date: June 1, 2021

Study and Report on the Feasibility of Creating and Maintaining a Coastal Barrier System

(Joint Interim Committee to Study a Coastal Barrier System)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1082](#), Section 1

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

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature

Expiration Date: January 11, 2021

Environment

Study and Report on the Potential Impacts of Creating a Defense to Liability for Persons Who Arrange for Recycling of Recyclable Material

(Texas Commission on Environmental Quality)

Legislation: [House Bill 3224](#), Section 1

Description: Study by the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, in consultation with a work group that includes industry stakeholders, on the potential impacts of creating a defense to liability under the Health and Safety Code for persons who arrange for recycling of recyclable material who would not be liable for the recyclable material under federal law. Report must include the findings of the study and legislative recommendations based on the study.

Due Date: Not later than January 15, 2021

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: August 31, 2021

Plan and Progress Report Related to Promoting the Use of Recyclable Materials as Feedstock for Processing and Manufacturing

(Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
and the Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 649](#), Sections 1 and 2

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ), in cooperation with the Texas Economic Development and Tourism Office, shall produce a plan to stimulate the use of recyclable materials as feedstock for processing and manufacturing. TCEQ shall update the plan every four years. In a year in which the plan is updated, the plan shall be included in the annual summary of municipal solid waste management produced by the municipal solid waste permits section of TCEQ. The bill requires TCEQ and the economic development and tourism office to prepare a progress report on the initial plan and a related education program.

Due Dates: Not later than September 1, 2020 (progress report); not later than September 1, 2021 (initial plan and education program)

Recipients:

- Governor and Municipal Solid Waste Management and Resource Recovery Advisory Council (progress report)
- Governor and Legislature (plan updates)

Family Law

Report on the Status of the Community-Based Foster Care System (Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 15, Page II-11

Description: Semiannual report on selected performance measures identified by the Legislative Budget Board that allow for comparative analysis between the legacy foster care and community-based foster care systems. Besides including data and analysis that identify trends and factors negatively impacting any outcomes, the reports shall also include recommendations to address problems identified from the data and any other information necessary to determine the status of the community-based foster care system.

Due Dates: March 31 and September 30 of each fiscal year of the biennium

Recipients:

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

Quarterly Status Reports on the Implementation of Community-Based Foster Care in Certain CPS Regions (Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 29, Page II-17

Description: Quarterly status reports on the implementation of community-based foster care in certain child protective services regions.

Due Dates: October 1 and April 1 of each year

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board

Evaluation of Centralized Placement Units for Children in State Care (Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 30, Page II-17

Description: Evaluation of centralized placement units for children in state care that takes into consideration assessment of multiple placement disruptions, placement capacity tracking, and continuous quality improvement for the placement process. Report shall provide findings and recommendations.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

Study and Report on the Effect of Alternative Management to Caseworker Ratios for Child and Adult Protective Services (Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 36, Page II-19

Description: Study of management to caseworker ratios for Child and Adult Protective Services to determine the effects of alternative ratios on expenditures and agency operations. Report shall provide the findings of the study.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

Report on the Success of a Pilot Program in Improving Outcomes for Children at Highest Risk of Re-Entering the Child Protective Services System (Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 39, Page II-19

Description: Report on the implementation of a pilot program for children at highest risk of re-entering the child protective services system. The report shall consider the success of the pilot program in improving outcomes for such children.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

Evaluation of Foster Care Rate Methodology and a New Rate Methodology (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Section 32, Page II-120

Description: Evaluation by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), in consultation with the Department of Family and Protective Services, of the methodology for establishing foster care rates and a new rate methodology that would increase provider service capacity, incentivize quality improvements, and maximize the use of federal funds. HHSC shall also evaluate cost-reporting requirements to identify opportunities to streamline reporting and ensure that necessary information is included to support an alternative foster care rate methodology. Report shall provide the evaluation of the methodology and cost-reporting requirements.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor

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

DFPS Report on Alcohol and Controlled Substance Statistics

(Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 195](#), Section 2

Description: Annual report that will be submitted when the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) automated case tracking and information management system is updated to allow caseworkers to record the following:

- the number of children reported to DFPS who at birth tested positive for the presence of alcohol or a controlled substance;
- the controlled substances for which those children tested positive;
- the number of those children who were removed from their homes and have been diagnosed as having a disability or chronic medical condition resulting from the presence of alcohol or controlled substances; and
- the number of parents who test positive for the presence of a controlled substance during a DFPS investigation of a report of abuse or neglect of the parent's child.

Preparation and submission of the report depends on a determination by the commissioner of that the legislature has specifically appropriated an amount sufficient to update the department's automated case tracking and information management system.

Due Date: Not later than November 1 of each year

Recipient: Legislature

Strategic Plan for the Coordinated Implementation of Community-Based Care and Foster Care Prevention Services

(Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 355](#), Section 1

Description: Strategic plan by the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) for the coordinated implementation of community-based care and foster care prevention services. The strategic plan must do the following:

- identify a network of services providers to provide mental health, substance use, and in-home parenting support services for children at risk of entering foster care, the parents and caregivers of such children, and pregnant or parenting youth in foster care;
- identify methods for the statewide implementation of foster care prevention services, including implementation in DFPS regions that are transitioning to community-based care;
- identify resources necessary for DFPS to implement community-based care and to coordinate that implementation with the implementation of foster care prevention services, including: enhanced training related to procurement, contract monitoring and enforcement services, information technology services, and financial and legal services; a financial methodology for funding the implementation of community-based care and foster care prevention services; and resources to address the placement of children in settings eligible for federal financial participation;
- identify methods to: maximize resources from the federal government; apply for other available federal and private funds; streamline and reduce duplication of effort by each state agency involved in providing mental health, substance use, and in-home parenting support services; streamline the procedures for determining eligibility for those services; prescribe and terminate those services; and reduce recidivism in foster care prevention services;
- include a method to: notify the Senate Health and Human Services Committee, the Senate Finance Committee, the House Committee on Human Services, the House Committee on Public Health, and the House Appropriations Committee of federal and private funding opportunities; and respond to those opportunities; and
- identify opportunities to coordinate with independent researchers to assist community programs in evaluating and developing trauma-informed services and promising, supported, or well-supported services and strategies under federal law.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Study and Report on the Adequacy of Resources Provided to Foster Parents
(Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 355](#), Section 2

Description: Study to evaluate whether the Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) provides foster parents with adequate resources to ensure that foster parents are able to comply with all of the regulations relating to providing care for a child in the conservatorship of DFPS. Report must contain the results of the study and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Health and Human Services

Evaluation of the Impact of Reductions in Available Funding Under the Federal Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Waiver (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 26, Page II-58

Description: Evaluation of the impact of reductions in available funding under the federal Healthcare Transformation and Quality Improvement Waiver for programs operated in Texas under the waiver. Report shall provide the evaluation and findings.

Due Date: Not later than October 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Senate Finance Committee
- House Appropriations Committee
- Legislative Budget Board

Study Regarding Cost Drivers in the STAR Kids Medicaid Managed Care Program (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 27, Page II-59

Description: Study regarding cost drivers in the STAR Kids Medicaid managed care program to include the cost impact of STAR Kids members with high utilization and cost drivers, including private duty nursing and other services as appropriate, in each participating managed care organization. If the study determines that adjustments to the STAR Kids capitation rate-setting methodology are appropriate, the Health and Human Services Commission may make the adjustments if the adjustments will not result in increased expenditures.

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipients: No specific recipients stated

Study of Existing Models of High-Risk Maternal Care Coordination Services (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 28, Page II-32

Description: Study of existing models of high-risk maternal care coordination services as part of an effort to develop and establish a high-risk maternal care coordination services pilot program for women of childbearing age. The pilot program may also include identifying, adapting, or creating risk assessment tools to identify pregnant women who are at higher risk for poor pregnancy, birth, or postpartum outcomes; conducting a statewide assessment of training courses; and creating educational material for promotoras or community health workers

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipients: No specific recipients stated

Study and Report on the Cost of Responding to an Outbreak Involving Vaccine Preventable Diseases (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 29, Page II-33

Description: Study of the direct and indirect economic costs incurred by the Department of State Health Services and local public health organizations in responding to an outbreak involving vaccine preventable diseases. Report shall provide all findings from the study.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Relevant committees of the senate and the house
- Public Health Funding and Policy Committee established by Section 117.051, Health and Safety Code

Evaluation of Strategies to Achieve Cost Savings for Medicaid Prescription Drugs (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 30, Page II-60

Description: Evaluation of strategies to achieve cost savings for Medicaid prescription drugs, including the direct dispensing of prescription drugs by physicians. Report shall provide findings and recommendations for achieving cost savings.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

Study and Report on Medicaid Managed Care Organization Services for Adults with Serious Mental Illness (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 33, Page II-60

Description: Study of Medicaid managed care organization services for adults with serious mental illness that identifies performance measures to better hold managed care organizations (MCOs) accountable for outcomes and Medicaid spending for individuals with serious mental illness. The Health and Human Services Commission shall also evaluate the delivery of services by MCOs against standards of care and develop recommendations to improve quality of care. Report shall include findings and recommendations.

Due Date: Not later than August 31, 2020

Recipients:

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

Evaluation of Opioid Drug Prescribing Practices in Texas Under Medicaid (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 34, Page II-60

Description: Evaluation of the prescribing practices for opioid drugs in Texas under Medicaid and an assessment of how well those practices align with the guidelines for prescribing opioid drugs adopted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC). Report shall include findings and recommendations for better aligning the opioid drug prescribing practices in Texas under Medicaid with the CDC guidelines for prescribing opioid drugs.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature
- Legislative Budget Board

Recommendations to Improve the Rate of Youth Formerly in Foster Care Who Maintain Continuous Health Coverage (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 35, Page II-61

Description: Annual report to evaluate the number of former foster children who do not renew Medicaid coverage to maintain continuous health coverage until their 26th birthday. Report shall include findings and recommendations to improve the rate of youth formerly in foster care who maintain continuous health coverage.

Due Date: Not later than November 1 of each fiscal year

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Senate Finance Committee
- House Appropriations Committee
- Legislative Budget Board

Report on the Outcomes Achieved by Providers in the Texas Medicaid Delivery System Reform and Incentive Payment Program (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 38, Page II-61

Description: Report on the outcomes achieved by providers in the Texas Medicaid Delivery System Reform and Incentive Payment program authorized by a federal demonstration waiver. The report must include for demonstration years 7 and 8 a description of the measures, associated core activities, and providers' performance and also identify the activities with a positive return on investment and those associated with successful provider performance.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

Study and Report on Establishing a Medicaid Enhanced Payment Model for Certain Emergency Medical Transportation Services (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 39, Page II-61

Description: Study on the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of establishing a Medicaid enhanced payment model for non-state government-operated public providers of ground emergency medical transportation services.

Report shall include an analysis of the enhanced payment model's effect on Uncompensated Care Pool funding and whether eligible providers for the model should continue to be eligible for payments from the Uncompensated Care Pool.

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipients: No specific recipients stated

Study and Report on the Feasibility of Implementing a New Hepatitis C Treatment Access Model

(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 40, Page II-62

Description: Study by the Health and Human Services Commission, in cooperation with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, Employees Retirement System, and Teacher Retirement System, to explore the feasibility of implementing a new Hepatitis C treatment access model allowing the state to pay a flat monthly rate for unlimited access to medications or other bulk purchasing or negotiating opportunities to treat individuals with Hepatitis C who are eligible to have prescription drugs provided with state funds. Report shall provide the cost-effectiveness and projected savings of implementing such a model.

Due Date: Not later than July 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

Evaluation of the Feasibility of Requiring Trauma Service Area Regional Advisory Councils to Implement a Certain Diversion Program

(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 41, Page II-62

Description: Evaluation of the feasibility of requiring trauma service area regional advisory councils to implement a program to allow emergency medical services providers to navigate medically stable psychiatric emergency detention patients to the most appropriate setting. As part of the evaluation, the Health and Human Services Commission shall consider the potential for Medicaid cost savings and options for providing reimbursement to the regional advisory councils or emergency medical services providers with those savings. Report shall provide the results of the evaluation.

Due Date: Not later than October 31, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board

**Study and Report on the Interest Lists or Other Waiting Lists
for Medicaid Waiver Programs**
(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 42, Page II-62

Description: Study of the interest lists or other waiting lists for six Medicaid waiver programs, including the Home and Community-Based Services Waiver Program. Report shall provide the results of the study.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board

**Report on the Status of an Enrollment Incentive Program for Medicaid Recipients
Who Have Not Selected a Managed Care Plan**
(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 43, Page II-62

Description: Report on the status of an enrollment incentive program that automatically enrolls a greater percentage of Medicaid recipients who have not selected a managed care plan into a plan based on quality of care, efficiency and effectiveness of service provision, and performance. The report shall include metrics for the program in three areas: cost, quality of care, and Medicaid member satisfaction.

Due Date: Not later than January 15, 2021

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board

Report on Opioid-Related Expenditures at HHSC, DFPS, and DSHS
(Executive Commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 66, Page II-68

Description: Annual report that provides information about actual annual expenditures from the previous fiscal year for all opioid abuse and misuse-related programs at the

Health and Human Services Commission, Department of Family and Protective Services, and the Department of State Health Services, including but not limited to prevention, treatment, recovery, intervention, and detoxification services. Report shall also include expenditure data by program at the method of finance level and the amount distributed to institutions of higher education by Article II agencies.

Due Date: Not later than October 1 of each year

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature
- Legislative Budget Board

**Proposal to Improve the Efficiency of Administering
Substance Abuse Treatment Services**
(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 67, Page II-68

Description: Proposal by the Health and Human Services Commission, in consultation with five specified stakeholders, to improve the efficiency of administering substance abuse treatment services and expand the capacity of such services. Report shall provide details of the proposal.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

**Evaluation of the Reimbursement Methodology and Payment Rate
for Substance Abuse Treatment Services Administered by HHSC**
(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 69, Page II-68

Description: Evaluation of the reimbursement methodology and payment rate for substance abuse treatment services administered by the Health and Human Services

Commission that takes into consideration best practices for each level of care. Report shall provide the initial findings.

Due Date: Not later than November 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

**Information Regarding the Alternatives to Abortion Program
Administered by HHSC
(Health and Human Services Commission)**

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 80, Page II-71

Description: Annual report submitting the following information regarding the Alternatives to Abortion program (A2A) administered by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC): total number of A2A providers, including subcontractors, by geographical region, and the total number of unduplicated clients served by each provider, by gender and age; description of A2A outreach efforts by providers and HHSC; total expenditures by method of finance; total contract amounts by provider, including subcontractors; and any outcome measures included in contracts with providers.

Due Date: Not later than December 1 of each year

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board

**Plan and Progress Reports Related to Maximizing Funding for Early Childhood
Intervention Services
(Health and Human Services Commission)**

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 98, Page II-75

Description: Plan and progress reports related to maximizing funding for early childhood intervention services. Each progress report shall identify strategies that the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) has implemented and the impact of the strategies;

strategies HHSC plans to implement and a timeframe for implementation; and any challenges in maximizing funding available to providers of early childhood intervention services.

Due Dates: Not later than September 1, 2019 (plan); March 1, 2020, September 1, 2020, and March 1, 2021 (progress reports)

Recipients:

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

**Evaluation of Alternative Models for Pharmacy Services
at State Supported Living Centers**
(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 111, Page II-79

Description: Evaluation of the feasibility and cost-effectiveness of alternative models for pharmacy services at state supported living centers to include consideration of off-site pharmacy services, partnering with a higher education institution to obtain more favorable pricing, and any other option identified by the Health and Human Services Commission. Report shall provide findings and recommendations.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

Review of the HHSC Process for Completing Nursing Facility Change of Ownership
(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 171, Page II-103

Description: Review of the Health and Human Services Commission's process for completing nursing facility change of ownership, including timeframes for application

processing, survey, contracting, licensure, and payments following the completed change of ownership. Report shall detail the commission's current processes and time frames and provide recommendations for improving the change of ownership process to reduce the time during which a nursing facility provides services without Medicaid reimbursement.

Due Date: Not later than March 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

Study and Report on Strategies to Reduce or Contain Diabetes-Related Costs in the Medicaid Program
(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 172, Page II-103

Description: Study by the Health and Human Services Commission, in coordination with the Texas Diabetes Council, to develop strategies to reduce or contain diabetes-related costs in the Medicaid program using best practices to improve quality of care. Report shall include findings and recommendations.

Due Date: Not later than August 31, 2020

Recipients:

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

Report on Improvements to the 2-1-1 Help Line System Administered by HHSC
(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 174, Page II-103

Description: Report on improvements to disaster response capabilities, system integration, data transparency, and the effectiveness of the 2-1-1 Help Line System

administered by the Health and Human Services Commission. The report shall include information on technology enhancements and other improvements to the system.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board

Progress Reports on Implementing the Statewide Behavioral Health Strategic Plan, Including a Sub-plan Related to Substance Abuse
(Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Section 10.04(c), Page IX-56

Description: Two progress reports on implementing the Statewide Behavioral Health Strategic Plan published in the 2016-2017 state budget. Reports shall include how the strategic plan's implementation serves to coordinate programs and services to eliminate redundancy, utilize best practices in contracting standards, perpetuate identified successful models for mental health and substance abuse treatment, ensure optimal service delivery, and identify comparable data on results and effectiveness. The Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council shall collaborate with the Texas State Board of Pharmacy and the Texas Medical Board to create a sub-plan related to substance abuse.

Due Dates: Not later than December 1, 2020 and December 1, 2021

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board

Additional Reporting on the Mental Health First Aid Training Program
(Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: [House Bill 18](#), Section 2.01; [House Bill 1070](#), Section 1

Description: Annual report on the mental health first aid training program that now will include, besides existing statutory requirements, information on the number of trainers who left the program for any reason during the preceding fiscal year and the number of active trainers. The report will also categorize trained employees from the previous year

by local mental health authority region, university or school district, as applicable, and category of personnel. In addition, the report will include a detailed accounting of expenditures of money appropriated for the purpose of implementing the mental health first aid training program.

Due Date: Next report due not later than December 1, 2020

Recipient: Legislature

Report on Outcomes for School Districts and Students Resulting from Services Provided by a Non-Physician Mental Health Professional
(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 19](#), Section 1

Description: Annual report with information from each local mental health authority that employs and supervises a non-physician mental health professional regarding the outcomes for school districts and students resulting from services provided by the non-physician mental health professional. The Texas Education Agency shall be given a reasonable opportunity to review and provide input on a report before the report is submitted by the Health and Human Services Commission.

Due Date: Not later than January 31 of each calendar year as specified by the bill

Recipients:

- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with jurisdiction over mental health or public education
- Texas Education Agency

Reports on Implementation and Results of a Pilot Program to Provide Medical Transportation Services During Pregnancy and After Delivery
(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 25](#), Section 1

Description: Two reports on a pilot program to provide medical transportation services to a woman who is enrolled in the STAR Medicaid managed care program during the

woman's pregnancy and after she delivers. For the first report, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) shall report on the implementation of the pilot program. For the second report, HHSC shall evaluate and report on the results of the pilot program and determine whether the program is cost-effective, improves the efficiency and quality of services provided under the medical transportation program, and is effective as specified by the bill. The second report shall also include a recommendation regarding whether the pilot program should continue, be expanded, or terminate.

Due Dates: Not later than December 1, 2020 (first report); not later than December 1, 2022 (second report)

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2023

Report on the Effectiveness of Information on the Health Effects of Exposure to Open Burn Pit Smoke and Other Airborne Hazards
(Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: [House Bill 306](#), Sections 2 and 3

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) shall create an open burn pit registry for certain service members and veterans. Following creation of the registry, DSHS shall prepare a report that includes an assessment of the effectiveness of collection and maintenance of information on the health effects of exposure to open burn pit smoke and other airborne hazards and any recommendation to improve the collection and maintenance of such information.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients: Appropriate standing committees of the senate and the house

Report on Efforts to Promote the Early Diagnosis and Effective Treatment of Chronic Kidney Disease
(Chronic Kidney Disease Task Force)

Legislation: [House Bill 1225](#), Section 3

Description: Biennial report related to re-creation of the Chronic Kidney Disease Task Force and its duties to coordinate implementation of the state's cost-effective plan for

early diagnosis and effective treatment of chronic kidney disease and to educate health care professionals on the use of clinical practice guidelines for screening, detecting, diagnosing, treating, and managing chronic kidney disease. Report shall include the task force's findings and recommendations.

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

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Presiding officers of the standing committees of the senate and the house with jurisdiction over health issues

Expiration Date: The Chronic Kidney Disease Task Force is abolished on the date determined by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) and published in the Texas Register and on the HHSC Internet website.

Report on the Results of a Pilot Program to Help Certain Recipients of Public Benefits Gain Permanent Self-Sufficiency
(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1483](#), Section 1

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) shall develop and implement a pilot program to help eligible families as specified by the bill gain permanent self-sufficiency and no longer require financial assistance, supplemental nutrition assistance, or other means-tested public benefits. HHSC shall report on the results of the program. The report shall include the following: an evaluation of the pilot program's effect on participating families; the impact of the pilot program on the costs of the financial assistance and supplemental nutrition assistance programs and of the child-care services program operated by the Texas Workforce Commission; a cost-benefit analysis of the program; and recommendations on the feasibility and continuation of the program.

Due Date: On the conclusion of the pilot program but not later than 48 months following the date the last participating family is enrolled in the program

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2026

Recommendations to Improve Diagnosis and Treatment of Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome

(Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome Advisory Council)

Legislation: [House Bill 2783](#), Section 1

Description: Annual report by the Pediatric Acute-Onset Neuropsychiatric Syndrome Advisory Council established by the bill to advise the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) and the legislature on research, diagnosis, treatment, and education related to pediatric acute-onset neuropsychiatric syndrome. Report shall include recommendations on practice guidelines for diagnosis and treatment, mechanisms to increase clinical awareness and education, strategies for outreach to educators and parents to increase awareness of the syndrome, and development of a network of volunteer experts on diagnosis and treatment regarding the syndrome.

Due Date: Not later than September 1 of each year

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature
- HHSC

Expiration Date: September 1, 2031

Report Summarizing the Work of the Sickle Cell Task Force

(Sickle Cell Task Force)

Legislation: [House Bill 3405](#), Section 1

Description: Annual report that summarizes the work of the sickle cell task force established by the bill to raise awareness of sickle cell disease and sickle cell trait and to study and advise the Department of State Health Services on implementing the recommendations made in a 2018 report published by the Sickle Cell Advisory Committee or any other report the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission determines is appropriate. Report shall include any recommended actions or policy changes endorsed by the task force.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature

Summary and Legislative Reports on Suicide in Texas

(Health and Human Services Commission and Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council)

Legislation: [House Bill 3980](#), Sections 3 (summary report) and 4 (legislative report)

Description: Summary report by the Health and Human Services Commission, in conjunction with the Department of State Health Services, on the prevalence of suicide in Texas. The summary report must do the following: include available statewide and regional data on the prevalence rates of suicide-related events; identify the highest categories of risk with correlational data; list related statutes, rules, and policies; and describe state agency initiatives since 2000 to address suicide, as prescribed by the bill.

The legislative report on suicide in Texas by the Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council shall be prepared using the summary report on suicide and with input from a stakeholder workgroup. The report shall identify opportunities and make recommendations, including those that require legislative action, for state agencies to improve statewide and regional data collection on suicide-related events, use data to guide and inform decisions and policy development relating to suicide prevention, and decrease suicide in Texas while targeting the highest categories of risk.

Due Dates: Not later than May 1, 2020 (summary report); not later than November 1, 2020 (legislative report)

Recipients (summary report):

- Statewide Behavioral Health Coordinating Council
- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over health and mental health

Recipients (legislative report):

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over health and mental health

Expiration Date: December 1, 2020

Report on the Feasibility of Operating the STAR Kids Managed Care Program Under Alternative Models of Care

(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 4533](#), Section 4

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) shall prepare and submit a written report on the determination made by the executive commissioner of HHSC, in consultation and collaboration with the Star Kids Managed Care Advisory Committee, regarding the feasibility of providing Medicaid benefits to children enrolled in the STAR Kids managed care program under the following: an accountable care organization model in accordance with guidelines established by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services; or an alternative model developed by or in collaboration with the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services Innovation Center.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2022

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2023

Analysis of Whether to Implement a Pilot Program to Improve Service Delivery to Persons with an Intellectual or Developmental Disability Statewide

(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 4533](#), Section 21

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Health and Human Services Commission, in consultation and collaboration with the Intellectual and Developmental Disability System Redesign Advisory Committee and a pilot program workgroup, shall evaluate the pilot program established under existing law to improve service delivery to persons with an intellectual or developmental disability. The analysis must assess the effect of the pilot program on certain outcomes; analyze the experiences and outcomes of certain systems changes; and include feedback on the pilot program based on the personal experiences of certain individuals or families. Report must include recommendations on a system of programs and services for consideration by the legislature, necessary statutory changes, and whether to implement the pilot program statewide under the STAR+PLUS Medicaid managed care program for eligible individuals.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2026

Recipient: Legislature

Report of Available Data on the Impact of the Limitation on Medicaid Inpatient Hospital Days

(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 4533](#), Section 29

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) shall report available data on the 30-day limitation on reimbursement for inpatient hospital care provided to Medicaid recipients enrolled in the STAR+PLUS Medicaid managed care program. To the extent data is available on the subject, HHSC shall also report on the number of Medicaid recipients affected by the limitation and their clinical outcomes and the impact of the limitation on reducing unnecessary Medicaid inpatient hospital days and any cost savings achieved by the limitation under Medicaid.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature
- Legislative Budget Board

Report on the Activities and Objectives of the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium

(Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 11](#), Section 22

Description: Biennial report on the activities and objectives of the Texas Child Mental Health Care Consortium established by the bill to enhance the state's ability to address the mental health care needs of children and adolescents through collaboration of the health-related institutions of higher education the bill prescribes as member institutions of the consortium. The report shall outline the activities and objectives of the consortium, the health-related institutions of higher education in the consortium that receive funding by the executive committee of the consortium, and any legislative recommendations based on the consortium's activities and objectives.

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

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor

- Speaker of the house
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over behavioral health issues

Report on the Success of Statewide Initiatives to Improve Maternal and Newborn Health for Women with Opioid Use Disorder

(Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 436](#), Section 2

Description: Report that evaluates the success of statewide initiatives to improve maternal and newborn health for women with opioid use disorder. If the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) conducts a limited pilot program in one or more geographic areas of Texas to implement the initiatives, the report will also evaluate the pilot program. The initiatives developed and implemented by DSHS in collaboration with the Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force must do the following:

- improve screening procedures to better identify and care for women with opioid use disorder;
- improve continuity of care for women with opioid use disorder by ensuring that health care providers refer the women to appropriate treatment and verify the women receive the treatment;
- optimize health care provided to pregnant women with opioid use disorder;
- optimize health care provided to newborns with neonatal abstinence syndrome by encouraging maternal engagement;
- increase access to medication-assisted treatment for women with opioid use disorder during pregnancy and the postpartum period; and
- prevent opioid use disorder by reducing the number of opioid drugs prescribed before, during, and following a delivery.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients: Presiding officers of the standing committees of each house of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over public health

Report Compiling Child Safety Data Collected by HHSC

(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 708](#), Section 1

Description: Annual report compiling child safety data collected by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), in collaboration with the Department of Family and

Protective Services (DFPS), for each licensed day care center and at a location other than a licensed day care center. The report shall include the following:

- the number of confirmed serious injuries and fatalities for children four years of age and younger, aggregated by the age of the injured or deceased child, including information collected by DFPS that occurred at each licensed day-care center and at a location other than a licensed day care center;
- the priority assigned to the investigation conducted by HHSC or DFPS in response to an incident that resulted in a serious injury or child fatality;
- the number of investigations conducted by HHSC or DFPS at each licensed day-care center involving a child four years of age or younger that were assigned the highest priority or second-highest priority, aggregated by the age of the youngest affected child;
- the number of violations HHSC found at each licensed day-care center during those investigations; and
- a comparison of whether children under the supervision of a licensed day-care center are more likely than children outside the supervision of a licensed day-care center to suffer a serious injury or death.

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipient: Legislature

Report Based on a Review of Child Safety Data Collected by HHSC
(Executive Commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 708](#), Section 2

Description: Report based on a review of data collected by the Health and Human Services Commission, in collaboration with the Department of Family and Protective Services, on incidents in licensed day-care centers and incidents at a location other than a licensed day center that threaten or impair the basic health, safety, or welfare of a child. Report must include legislative and regulatory recommendations by age group to enhance child safety.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2021

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2023

Report on the Implementation Plan for an Additional Newborn Screening Test (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 747](#), Sections 3 and 7; [Senate Bill 748](#), Sections 2 and 9

Description: For any additional newborn screening test required by the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) that was not offered under the newborn screening program before September 1, 2019, the costs of which are funded with money appropriated from the newborn screening preservation account created by the bill, DSHS shall prepare and submit a written report that summarizes the following: the implementation plan for the test, including anticipated completion dates for implementing the test and potential barriers to conducting the test, and the actions taken by DSHS to fund and implement the test during the preceding two years.

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

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Each standing committee of the legislature having primary jurisdiction DSHS

Report Summarizing Actions Taken to Address Maternal Morbidity and Reduce Maternal Mortality Rates (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 748](#), Section 3

Description: Biennial report summarizing the actions taken to address maternal morbidity and reduce maternal mortality rates. Report must include information from programs and initiatives created to address maternal morbidity and reduce maternal mortality rates in Texas, including the following: Medicaid; the children's health insurance program, including the perinatal program; the Healthy Texas Women program; the Family Planning Program; Texas' program under the federal Maternal and Child Health Services Block Grant Act; the Perinatal Advisory Council; state health plans; and the Healthy Texas Babies program.

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

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor

- Speaker of the house
- Appropriate standing committees of the legislature
- Legislative Budget Board

Report on the Success of a Program to Deliver Prenatal and Postpartum Care Through Telehealth Services or Telemedicine Medical Services in Certain Counties (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 748](#), Section 4

Description: Report that evaluates the success of a program developed by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), in consultation with the Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force, to deliver prenatal and postpartum care through telehealth services or telemedicine medical services to pregnant women with a low risk of experiencing pregnancy-related complications, as determined by a physician. HHSC shall implement the program in at least two counties with populations of more than two million, at least one county with a population of more than 100,000 and less than 500,000, and at least one rural county with high rates of maternal mortality and morbidity as determined by HHSC in consultation with the task force.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2021

Recipient: Legislature

Report on the Implementation of a High-Risk Maternal Care Coordination Services Pilot Program (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 748](#), Section 6

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) shall develop and implement a high-risk maternal care coordination services pilot program in one or more geographic areas of Texas. In implementing the pilot program, DSHS shall develop training courses to prepare promotoras and community health workers in educating and supporting women at high risk for serious complications during the pregnancy and postpartum periods. Report must include an evaluation from the commissioner of state health services of the pilot program's effectiveness and a recommendation from DSHS on whether the pilot program should continue, be expanded, or be terminated.

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

Recipients:

- Chairs of the standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over public health and human services
- Executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission

Expiration Date: September 1, 2023

Study on Permitting Reimbursement Under Medicaid for Maternal Care Delivered Through Telemedicine Medical Services and Telehealth Services
(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 748](#), Section 7

Description: Study on the benefits and costs of permitting reimbursement under Medicaid for prenatal and postpartum care delivered through telemedicine medical services and telehealth services.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Report on a Pilot Program to Establish Pregnancy Medical Homes
(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 748](#), Section 8

Description: Report on a pilot program to establish pregnancy medical homes that provide coordinated evidence-based maternity care management to women who are recipients of Medicaid through a Medicaid managed care model or arrangement. The Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) shall implement the program in at least two counties with populations of more than two million, at least one county with a population of more than 100,000 and less than 500,000, and at least one rural county with high rates of maternal mortality and morbidity as determined by HHSC in consultation with the Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force. Report must include an evaluation of the pilot program's success in reducing poor birth outcomes and a recommendation on whether the pilot program should be continued, expanded, or terminated.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2021

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2023

Review of Neonatal and Maternal Care to Improve the Process for Assigning Levels of Care to a Hospital for Neonatal and Maternal Care

(Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 749](#), Section 3

Description: Two reports by the Department of State Health Services (DSHS), in consultation with the Perinatal Advisory Council, that review neonatal care and maternal care, respectively, to improve the process for assigning levels of care to a hospital for neonatal and maternal care. The reports must summarize the DSHS review of neonatal care and maternal care, respectively, and actions taken by DSHS and the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission based on that review.

Due Dates: Not later than December 31, 2019 (neonatal care report); not later than December 31, 2020 (maternal care report)

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Report on Statewide Initiatives to Improve the Quality of Maternal Health Care Services

(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 750](#), Section 3

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) shall develop or enhance statewide initiatives to improve the quality of maternal health care services and outcomes for women in Texas. HHSC shall specify the initiatives that each managed care organization that contracts with HHSC to provide health care services in Texas must incorporate in the organization's managed care plans. The initiatives may address the following:

- prenatal and postpartum care rates;

- maternal health disparities that exist for minority women and other high-risk populations of women in Texas;
- social determinants of health; or
- other priorities specified by HHSC.

An annual report shall summarize the commission's progress in developing or enhancing the initiatives and each managed care organization's progress in incorporating the initiatives in the organization's managed care plans.

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipient: Legislature

Revised Submission of Findings Related to Maternal Mortality and Morbidity
(Department of State Health Services and the Texas Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committee)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 750](#), Section 16

Description: Joint biennial report on findings related to maternal mortality and morbidity that now will be submitted by the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) and the renamed Texas Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committee rather than by DSHS and the Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force.

Due Date: Next report due not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Appropriate committees of the legislature

Revised Submission of a Report on Pregnancy-Related Deaths, Severe Maternal Morbidity, and Postpartum Depression
(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 750](#), Section 17

Description: Biennial report on pregnancy-related deaths, severe maternal morbidity, and postpartum depression that now will be submitted by the Health and Human Services

Commission (HHSC) in coordination with the Department of State and Health Services (DSHS) and the renamed Texas Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Review Committee rather than by HHSC in coordination with DSHS and the Maternal Mortality and Morbidity Task Force.

Due Date: Next report due not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Appropriate standing committees of the legislature
- Legislative Budget Board

**Study and Report on Providing Medicaid Reimbursement
for Supportive Palliative Care**
(Palliative Care Interdisciplinary Advisory Council)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 916](#), Section 1

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), with recommendations on the structure of the study from the Palliative Care Interdisciplinary Advisory Council, shall conduct a study to assess potential improvements to a patient's quality of care and health outcomes and to anticipated cost savings to Texas from supporting the use of or providing Medicaid reimbursement to certain Medicaid recipients for supportive palliative care. The study must include an evaluation and comparison of other states that provide Medicaid reimbursement for supportive palliative care. HHSC shall provide the findings of the study to the Palliative Care Interdisciplinary Advisory Council, which shall include the findings in the advisory council's biennial report to the legislature.

Due Date: Not later than October 1, 2022

Recipients: Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over health matters

Expiration Date: September 1, 2023

Report on a State Plan for Education on and Treatment of Alzheimer's Disease and Related Disorders

(Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 999](#), Section 1

Description: Using existing resources and programs to the extent possible, the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) shall develop and implement a state plan for education on and treatment of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders. The state plan must include strategies for the following:

- improving early detection of, reducing disease onset risks for, and improving treatment of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders for specific demographic groups;
- educating health care professionals, caregivers, and the public to increase awareness of Alzheimer's disease and related disorders;
- providing caregiver support;
- advancing basic science and applied research related to Alzheimer's disease and related disorders; and
- collecting and evaluating information on efforts to prevent and treat Alzheimer's disease and related disorders.

DSHS shall conduct a review and modify as necessary the state plan at least once every five years. A biennial report on the development and implementation or the review or modification of the state plan is required by the bill.

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

Recipient: Legislature

Report on the Use of Certain Evidence-Based Services in Lieu of Other Mental Health or Substance Use Disorder Services

(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1177](#), Section 1

Description: Annual report on the number of times during the preceding year a medically appropriate, cost-effective, evidence-based service from the list approved by the state Medicaid managed care advisory committee and included in the contract between the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) and a managed care organization in lieu of mental health or substance use disorder services specified in the state Medicaid plan is used. HHSC shall take into consideration the actual cost and use of any services from

the list included in the contract that are offered by a managed care organization when setting the capitation rates for that organization under the contract.

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipient: Legislature

**Report on Access to Care for Medicaid Recipients Receiving Benefits
Under the Medically Dependent Children Waiver Program
(Health and Human Services Commission)**

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1207](#), Sections 3 and 7

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) shall provide the following information and data related to access to care for Medicaid recipients receiving benefits under the medically dependent children waiver program for the most recent state fiscal quarter:

- enrollment in the Medicaid buy-in for children program implemented under statutory provisions relating to Medicaid buy-in programs for certain persons with disabilities;
- requests relating to interest list placements under the bill's provisions relating to a child who is enrolled in the medically dependent children waiver program but becomes ineligible for services under the program because the child no longer meets the level of care criteria for medical necessity for nursing facility care or the age requirement for the program;
- use of the Medicaid escalation help line established under the Star Kids Medicaid Managed Care Program, if the help line was operational during the state fiscal quarter that is the subject of the HHSC quarterly report;
- use of, requests for, and outcomes of the external medical review procedure established under the bill to review the resolution of a Medicaid recipient appeal related to a reduction in or denial of services on the basis of medical necessity in the Medicaid managed care program or a denial by HHSC of eligibility for a Medicaid program in which eligibility is based on a Medicaid recipient's medical and functional needs; and
- complaints relating to the medically dependent children waiver program, categorized by disposition.

Due Date: Initial quarterly report due not later than September 30, 2020, for the state fiscal quarter ending August 31, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor

- Speaker of the house
- Each standing legislative committee with primary jurisdiction over Medicaid
- Legislative Budget Board

Study and Recommendations Regarding Long-Term Care Facilities (Long-Term Care Facilities Council)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1519](#), Section 2

Description: Biennial report by the Long-Term Care Facilities Council established by the bill to study and make recommendations regarding a consistent survey and informal dispute resolution process for long-term care facilities, Medicaid quality-based payment systems for those facilities, and the allocation of Medicaid beds in those facilities. The council shall do the following:

- study and make recommendations regarding best practices and protocols to make survey, inspection, and informal dispute resolution processes more efficient and less burdensome on long-term care facilities;
- recommend uniform standards for those processes;
- study and make recommendations relating to the allocation of and need for Medicaid beds in long-term care facilities, including studying and making recommendations relating to the following: the effectiveness of rules adopted by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission relating to the procedures for certifying and decertifying Medicaid beds in long-term care facilities; and the need for modifications to those rules to better control the procedures for certifying and decertifying Medicaid beds in long-term care facilities.

Report shall include the council's findings and recommendations.

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

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Chairs of the appropriate legislative committees
- Executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission

Strategic Plan and Report to Ensure Access to Hospital Services in Rural Areas (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1621](#), Section 2

Description: Biennial report regarding the Health and Human Services Commission's (HHSC) development and implementation of a strategic plan to ensure that Texas citizens residing in rural areas have access to hospital services. HHSC may not begin implementation of the strategic plan until the plan is approved by the Legislative Budget Board. The strategic plan must include a proposal for using at least one of the five methods specified in the bill to ensure access to hospital services in the rural areas of Texas and must provide target dates for achieving goals related to the proposal.

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

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature
- Legislative Budget Board

Study and Report Regarding the Use of Incentives to Purchase Certain Fruits or Vegetables Under SNAP (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1834](#), Section 1

Description: Study by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC), in consultation with a work group established by HHSC, regarding the use of incentives under the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) to purchase any variety of fresh, canned, dried, or frozen whole or cut fruits or vegetables that have no added sugars, fats, oils, or salt and are produced or harvested in Texas. The study must include the following:

- an inventory of existing programs that provide incentives for the purchase of eligible fruits or vegetables under SNAP, including details on how the programs are funded;
- recommendations on increasing the number and availability of those programs;
- an analysis of strategies to encourage the purchase of eligible fruits or vegetables using SNAP benefits;
- an analysis of the potential impact of programs in Texas that provide incentives for the purchase of eligible fruits or vegetables on the specialty crop industry in Texas; and

- an analysis of federal programs and money available to encourage the purchase of eligible fruits or vegetables using SNAP benefits, including the Food Insecurity Nutrition Incentive Grant Program operated by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Report must summarize the commission's findings and recommendations for legislative or other action.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Each standing committee of the legislature having primary jurisdiction over health and human services

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Study and Report on Calculating Reimbursement for Teaching Hospitals that Provide Inpatient Hospital Care Under Medicaid
(Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1991](#), Section 4

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) shall conduct a study to evaluate the impacts and effectiveness of using the Medicare education adjustment factor prescribed by the bill to calculate the medical education add-on used to reimburse teaching hospitals that provide inpatient hospital care under Medicaid. HHSC shall develop and make recommendations on alternative factors and methodologies for calculating and annually updating the medical education add-on that best recognize the higher costs incurred by teaching hospitals and mitigate issues identified with using the Medicare education adjustment factor without reducing reimbursements to urban teaching hospitals that have maintained or increased the number of interns and residents enrolled in the hospitals' approved teaching programs. Report shall include the commission's findings and recommendations.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Standing committees of the senate and the house having primary jurisdiction over matters relating to state finance and appropriations from the state treasury

- Standing committees of the senate and the house having primary jurisdiction over Medicaid
- Legislative Budget Board

Plan to Contract with a Public Institution of Higher Education to Operate Austin State Hospital (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 2111](#), Section 1

Description: Plan under which the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) may contract with a local public institution of higher education to transfer the operations of Austin State Hospital from HHSC to such an institution. In developing the plan, HHSC shall consult with local public institutions of higher education and establish procedures and policies as prescribed by the bill to monitor the care of affected state hospital patients and ensure that a local public institution of higher education that contracts with HHSC to operate Austin State Hospital operates the hospital at a quality level at least equal to the quality level achieved by HHSC. Report shall contain the plan and any recommendations for legislation or other actions necessary.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

Report on Certain Money Retained and Spent by HHSC to Administer Certain Medicaid Programs (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 2138](#), Section 1

Description: Annual report that details the amount of money from a source other than the general revenue fund that was retained and spent by the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) during the preceding state fiscal year to operate a Section 1115 Medicaid demonstration waiver program or a directed payment program or successor program as determined by HHSC. The report shall also include a separate detail of any

increase in the amount of money retained by HHSC on a determination that additional money was needed to administer a waiver or payment program, include a transparent description of how HHSC used the money retained to administer a waiver or payment program, assess the extent to which the money retained by HHSC covered the estimated costs to administer the applicable program, and state whether, based on that assessment, HHSC adjusted or considered adjustments to the amount retained.

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board

Higher Education

Study and Report on the Effectiveness of the Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program

(Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 28, Page III-58

Description: Study conducted by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, in coordination with a work group composed of representatives from the nursing field and other appropriate stakeholders, of the effectiveness of the Professional Nursing Shortage Reduction Program in addressing the shortage of professional nurses in Texas. Report shall provide the results of the study as well as any recommendations to improve the state's efforts to address the nursing shortage.

Due Date: Not later than November 1, 2020

Recipient: Legislature

Study and Report on Shortages in Health Professions

(Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

Legislation: [House Bill 80](#), Section 1

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, in collaboration with the Texas Health Professions Resource Center, the Texas Center for Nursing Workforce Studies, and the Texas Demographic Center, shall conduct a study of statewide and regional shortages in health professions, with an emphasis on shortages in doctoral-level training in those health professions. The study must include an analysis of shortages in 10 specified health professions for which doctoral-level training is required. Report must include results of the study and recommendations regarding the establishment of new programs and expansion of existing programs to meet the increased need for health professions in Texas, including in particular the increased need for health professionals with doctoral-level training who serve rural communities in Texas.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2023

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor

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

Expiration Date: January 1, 2024

**Recommendations for Creating an Electronic Application System
for State Student Financial Assistance**
(Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

Legislation: [House Bill 2140](#), Section 1

Description: Recommendations from an advisory committee appointed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board to assist the coordinating board in adopting the procedures to allow a person to complete and submit the Texas Application for State Financial Aid, or a similar application, by electronic submission through the Internet website through which the coordinating board provides the required common admission application form. Report submitted by the coordinating board shall contain the advisory committee's recommendations.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2021

Recipients: Standing committees of the senate and the house with jurisdiction over higher education

Expiration Date: January 1, 2023

**Report Regarding Implementation of Protected Expression
at Public Institutions of Higher Education**
(Each public institution of higher education)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 18](#), Section 2

Description: Report regarding implementation of the bill's requirements relating to the protection of expressive activities at public institutions of higher education. The bill requires a public institution of higher education to ensure that the common outdoor areas of the institution's campus are deemed traditional public forums and permit any person to engage in expressive activities in those areas, subject to certain restrictions. In addition, the bill requires each public institution of higher education to adopt a policy as prescribed

by the bill detailing students' rights and responsibilities regarding expressive activities at the institution. Ensuring that related policies and procedures are available to students and employees, as applicable, is also required by the bill.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021 (reporting requirement)

Report on Nontransferable Credit at General Academic Teaching Institutions
(Each general academic teaching institution)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 25](#), Sections 1 and 14; [Senate Bill 502](#), Sections 1 and 2

Description: Annual report describing any lower-division courses for which a student who transfers to a general academic teaching institution from another public institution of higher education is not granted academic credit at the receiving institution or, if the student has declared a major and has not changed majors, is not granted academic credit toward the student's major at the receiving institution. Report must indicate the course name and type, which public institution of higher education provided academic credit for the course, and the reason why the receiving institution did not grant academic credit for the course.

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

Recipients:

- Legislature
- Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

**Report on Courses Taken at a Public Junior College
by Students Who Transferred to a General Academic Teaching Institution
or Earned an Associate Degree at the College**
(Each public junior college)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 25](#), Sections 1 and 14; [Senate Bill 502](#), Sections 1 and 2

Description: Annual report on courses taken at a public junior college by students who, during the preceding academic year, transferred to a general academic teaching

institution or earned an associate degree at the college. Report must include the total number of the following: courses attempted and completed at the college, including the total number of semester credit hours for those courses, disaggregated by certain factors; courses attempted and completed at the college that are not in the recommended core curriculum developed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board; and dual credit courses, including courses for joint high school and junior college credit, attempted and completed at the college.

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

Recipients:

- Legislature
- Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board

Study and Report Regarding the Feasibility of Implementing Statewide Meta Majors in Eight Academic Disciplines at Public Institutions of Higher Education
(Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 25](#), Section 9

Description: Study by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, with assistance from an advisory committee established by the coordinating board, regarding the feasibility of implementing statewide meta majors in eight academic disciplines at public institutions of higher education. The bill defines "meta major" as a collection of programs of study or academic disciplines that share common foundational skills. Report shall include the results of the study and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

Due Date: Not later than November 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Study and Recommendations in Support of More Efficient Undergraduate Transfer Between Public Institutions of Higher Education
(Advisory committee established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 25](#), Section 9

Description: Study and recommendations by an advisory committee established by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board on the effectiveness of the requirements regarding the transfer of course credit between public institutions of higher education for courses in the core curriculum. The study and recommendations must include an analysis of the following:

- the efficacy of dividing the recommended core curriculum for each meta major into a general academic core curriculum and an academic discipline core curriculum and, if determined to be efficacious, the recommended number of semester credit hours for each component of the recommended core curriculum for each meta major;
- methods to ensure that courses completed in the general academic core curriculum and academic discipline core curriculum transfer between public institutions of higher education for course credit applied toward a student's major at the receiving institution; and
- the potential inclusion of courses in the field of study curricula in the recommended core curriculum.

Quarterly reports shall provide the advisory committee's progress in completing the study and making recommendations to the coordinating board.

Due Date: Each quarter ending before November 1, 2020, with a report on the results of the study and any recommendations for legislative or other action to be submitted not later than November 1, 2020

Recipients: Chairs of the standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over higher education

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Study and Report on Strategies to Incentivize Cybersecurity Degree Programs
(Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

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

Description: Study by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, in collaboration with the Department of Information Resources and in consultation with public institutions

of higher education, to identify and develop strategies to incentivize public institutions of higher education to develop degree programs in cybersecurity. Report must detail the strategies identified in the study.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Presiding officer of each legislative standing committee with primary jurisdiction over higher education
- Each governing board of a public institution of higher education

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Compliance with a Reporting Requirement for Certain Incidents at a Postsecondary Educational Institution
(Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 212](#), Sections 1 and 5

Description: Annual report regarding compliance with a reporting requirement established by the bill for incidents of sexual harassment, sexual assault, dating violence, and stalking alleged to have been committed by or against a person who was a student enrolled at or an employee of a postsecondary educational institution as defined by the bill. The coordinating board may assess an administrative penalty against a postsecondary educational institution that is not in substantial compliance with the reporting requirement. The report must include a summary of the postsecondary educational institutions found not to be in substantial compliance with the reporting requirement and any related penalties assessed during the calendar year preceding the date of the report.

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

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Standing legislative committees with primary jurisdiction over legislation concerning sexual assault at postsecondary educational institutions

Report on Policies and Practices to Improve Postsecondary Education Opportunities for Persons with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities
(Advisory council on postsecondary education for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1017](#), Sections 2 and 3

Description: Biennial report by an advisory council created by the bill to advise the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board on policies and practices to improve postsecondary education opportunities for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities. The advisory council shall do the following:

- study the accessibility of higher education for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities;
- provide advice regarding resolving barriers to accessing higher education for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities; and
- identify, evaluate, and develop recommendations to address barriers to accessing higher education for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities who are or have been in the foster care system and any data collection issues in relation to those persons.

The report by the advisory council must include the following:

- historic and current higher education data and related information regarding persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities, including graduation rates, the geographic distribution of institutions of higher education providing appropriate opportunities, a description of available programs, and any other relevant data; and
- recommendations for changes to support success and achievement for persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities in accessing higher education, including recommendations for addressing gaps in data and identifying problems with and barriers to accessing higher education.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Legislature
- Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- As necessary, other state agencies or relevant stakeholders

Study and Report Comparing Postsecondary Educational Outcomes for Certain Traditional and Nontraditional Students
(Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1441](#)

Description: Study comparing postsecondary educational outcomes for students enrolled at public institutions of higher education who received a high school diploma and students enrolled at those institutions who received a high school equivalency certificate, disaggregated by the high school equivalency examination completed. Report shall include the results of the study and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Study and Report on Streamlining Physician Licensing Requirements for Advanced Practice Registered Nurses
(Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 2011](#), Section 1

Description: Study by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, in collaboration with at least one public institution of higher education, the Texas Medical Board, and the Texas Board of Nursing, regarding the feasibility of developing a pilot program to streamline the requirements for an advanced practice registered nurse to become eligible under Chapter 155, Occupations Code, for a license to practice medicine. Report shall include the results of the study and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Each legislative standing committee with primary jurisdiction over matters relating to higher education or occupational licensing

Insurance

Report on the Financial Stability and Sustainability of the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association

(Windstorm Insurance Legislative Funding and Funding Structure Oversight Board)

Legislation: [House Bill 1900](#), Section 11

Description: Report of the windstorm insurance legislative funding and funding structure oversight board's findings regarding the current funding and funding structure of the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association, problems with the funding and funding structure, and recommendations for legislative action related to the funding, funding structure, and sustainability of the association. Report must include an analysis of the current funding, funding structure, and sustainability of the association, including the association's reliance on debt and reinsurance, and recommendations for legislative action necessary to address problems with the current funding and funding structure of the association and foster the stability and sustainability of the association.

Due Date: Not later than November 15, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Study and Report on a Merger of the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association and the Fair Access to Insurance Requirements Plan

(Windstorm Insurance Legislative Oversight Board)

Legislation: [House Bill 1900](#), Section 14

Description: Study to evaluate a merger of the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association established under Chapter 2210, Insurance Code, and the Fair Access to Insurance Requirements Plan established under Chapter 2211, Insurance Code. The evaluation must consider certain specified items and any other items the windstorm insurance legislative oversight board determines are relevant to such a merger. Report must include the oversight board's findings and legislative recommendations.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2021

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Texas Department of Insurance

Expiration Date: January 1, 2022

Study and Report on Senate Bill 1264 (86R), Prohibiting Balance Billing for Certain Health Benefit Plans
(Texas Department of Insurance)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1264](#), Section 4.01

Description: Biennial study on the impacts of Senate Bill 1264, Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019, which prohibits balance billing for certain health benefit plans. The bill requires the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI), each biennium, to conduct a study on the impacts of Senate Bill 1264 on Texas consumers and health coverage in Texas, including the following:

- trends in billed amounts for health care or medical services or supplies, especially emergency services, laboratory services, diagnostic imaging services, and facility-based services;
- comparison of the total amount spent on out-of-network emergency services, laboratory services, diagnostic imaging services, and facility-based services by calendar year and provider type or physician specialty;
- trends and changes in network participation by providers of emergency services, laboratory services, diagnostic imaging services, and facility-based services by provider type or physician specialty, including whether any terminations were initiated by a health benefit plan issuer, administrator, or provider;
- trends and changes in the amounts paid to participating providers;
- the number of complaints, completed investigations, and disciplinary sanctions for billing by providers of emergency services, laboratory services, diagnostic imaging services, or facility based services of enrollees for amounts greater than the enrollee's responsibility under an applicable health benefit plan, including applicable copayments, coinsurance, and deductibles;
- trends in amounts paid to out-of-network providers;
- trends in the usual and customary rate for health care or medical services or supplies, especially emergency services, laboratory services, diagnostic imaging services, and facility-based services; and

- the effectiveness of the claim dispute resolution process under statutory provisions relating to out-of-network claim dispute resolution.

Report must include the results of the study, including the department's findings.

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

Recipient: Legislature

Study and Report on the Use of, Transparency of, and Improving Patient Outcomes Under the Prior Authorization and Utilization Review Processes Used by Private Health Benefit Plan Issuers in Texas
(Joint Interim Committee on the Use of Prior Authorization and Utilization Review Processes)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1742](#), Sections 4.01, 4.02, and 4.03

Description: Report by a joint interim committee created by the bill to study, review, and report on the use of prior authorization and utilization review processes by private health benefit plan issuers in Texas and propose reforms related to the transparency of and improving patient outcomes under those processes. The joint interim committee shall study data and other information available from the Texas Department of Insurance, the office of public insurance counsel, or other sources the committee determines are relevant to the charge and shall prepare a report of the findings and proposed reforms. The report shall include recommendations of specific statutory and regulatory changes that appear necessary based on the committee's study.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house

Expiration Date: December 15, 2020

Juvenile Justice

Study and Report on Strategies to Reduce the Confinement of Children with Mental Illness or Intellectual Disabilities

(Texas Juvenile Justice Department)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 37, Page V-36

Description: Study to develop strategies to reduce the confinement of children with mental illness or intellectual disabilities. Report shall provide the results of the study.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

Revised Reporting Requirement Related to Children in the Custody of TJJD Who Have Been in Foster Care

(Texas Juvenile Justice Department)

Legislation: [House Bill 2229](#), Section 1

Description: Biennial report that now will be submitted to the governor, lieutenant governor, and each member of the legislature rather than to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house, and each standing committee having primary jurisdiction over the Texas Juvenile Justice Department (TJJD). The report summarizes statistical information concerning the total number and percentage of children in the custody of TJJD during the preceding two years who have at any time been in foster care. Data in the report must now be disaggregated by age, sex, race or ethnicity, the conduct for which children were committed to TJJD, and children entering the juvenile justice system for the first time.

Due Date: Next report due not later than January 31, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Legislature

Labor and Employment

Analysis of Adult Literacy Activities and Performance Measures for the Adult Education and Family Literacy Program

(Texas Workforce Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#) , Rider 45, Page VII-44

Description: Biennial report analyzing adult literacy activities and performance measures for the Adult Education and Family Literacy Program. Report shall identify the types of literacy programs conducted by providers and the measurable outcomes on literacy performed by the program and provide supporting documentation specified by the Legislative Budget Board.

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

Recipient: Legislature

Study and Report on the Effectiveness of the Skills Development Fund

(Texas Workforce Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 700](#), Section 4

Description: Study on and recommendations for increasing the effectiveness of the skills development fund established under Chapter 303, Labor Code. The recommendations must include strategies for better achieving the fund's purposes, improving outcomes, and expanding participation in the opportunities available through the fund. Report shall detail the Texas Workforce Commission's findings and recommendations.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

Report on TWC Grant Program to Encourage the Private Sector to Develop Specialized Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Programs in Texas (Texas Workforce Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 2784](#), Section 1

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) shall establish and administer the Texas Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Programs Grant Program to encourage the private sector to develop specialized industry-recognized apprenticeship programs in Texas. The TWC may award grants under the bill only to reimburse an eligible person for the cost of training industry-recognized apprenticeship program participants who, among other requirements, complete a program that guarantees employment for participants during and on successful completion of the training period. The TWC shall submit a report on grants made under the bill. The report shall provide specific information about each grant award, including the number of direct jobs created, the median wage of the jobs, the total amount of each grant awarded, and the number and categorization of program participants trained and employed by each grant recipient. The report shall also include a determination of whether the grant program has resulted in a positive return on investment to the state and, if the TWC considers it appropriate and feasible, a list of recommendations for legislative or other changes to the grant program to increase the return on investment to the state.

Due Date: Not later than December 1 of each year

Recipients:

- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Legislature

Report on the Effectiveness of a Workforce Diploma Pilot Program at TWC (Texas Workforce Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1055](#), Section 1

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC), in consultation with the Texas Education Agency, shall establish and administer a workforce diploma pilot program under which eligible high school diploma-granting entities participating in the program may be reimbursed for successfully assisting adult students to obtain a high school diploma and develop technical career readiness skills and employability. The bill sets out provisions relating to provider eligibility, approval,

reimbursement, and performance review. A biennial report on the effectiveness of the pilot program is required by the bill. TWC shall include in the report a recommendation regarding whether the pilot program should be continued, expanded, or terminated.

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

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2025

Revised Annual Reporting Requirement and One-Time-Only Report on Strategies to Expand the Health Care Workforce in Texas
(Health Professions Council)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1636](#), Sections 1 and 2

Description: Annual report by the Health Professions Council that now must be sent, in addition to the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house, to the chairs of the standing committees of the senate and the house having primary jurisdiction over public health or over state finance or appropriations. In addition to a statistical compilation of enforcement actions taken by a regulatory agency represented on the council and recommendations for statutory changes to improve the regulation of the health care professions, the annual report will now also include strategies to expand the health care workforce in Texas, including the following:

- methods for reducing the time required to process license applications for health care professions;
- methods for increasing the number of health care practitioners providing mental and behavioral health care services;
- any statutory and legislative appropriation recommendations the council determines are appropriate for expanding the health care workforce in Texas, including recommendations for expanding the health care workforce in medically underserved areas; and
- other relevant information and recommendations determined necessary by the council.

A one-time-only report that includes only strategies to expand the health care workforce in Texas is also required by the bill.

Due Dates: Not later than February 1, 2021 (first annual report to include strategies to expand the health care workforce in Texas); not later than June 1, 2020 (one-time-only report that includes only those strategies)

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Chairs of the standing committees of the senate and the house having primary jurisdiction over public health
- Chairs of the standing committees of the senate and the house having primary jurisdiction over state finance or appropriations

**Report on Occupational Skills Training for Individuals
with Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities**
(Texas Workforce Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 2038](#), Section 1

Description: Report that identifies potential funding sources for occupational skills training programs for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Report shall also identify specific occupations in high-demand industries in Texas for which a postsecondary certification, occupational license, or other workforce credential is required and that may be appropriate for individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities.

Due Date: Not later than November 1, 2020

Recipients: Each legislative standing committee with jurisdiction over workforce development or vocational rehabilitative services

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Military Forces and Veterans

Study and Report on the Cost of the Property Tax Exemption for 100 Percent Disabled Veterans (Comptroller of Public Accounts)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 20, Page I-29

Description: Study to determine the amount of property tax revenue that each county containing a U.S. military installation, each county adjacent to such a county, and each municipality located in either type of those counties lost for the 2019 property tax year as the result of exempting from taxation the total appraised value of a 100 percent disabled veteran's residence homestead as required by Section 11.131, Tax Code. Report shall state the amount of property tax revenue that was lost by each of the cities and counties as well as the aggregate amount lost by all municipalities and counties in Texas.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Legislature

Recommendations Related to the Efficient Issuance of TDLR Licenses to Qualified Military Service Members, Military Veterans, and Military Spouses (Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation)

Legislation: [House Bill 2214](#), Section 1

Description: Review of each type of license issued by the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation to identify the types for which a significant number of license applicants are military service members, military veterans, or military spouses. Report shall provide the results of the review and any recommendations related to the efficient issuance of licenses to qualified military service members, military veterans, and military spouses.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house

- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Report Regarding Veterans Treatment Court Programs (Texas Veterans Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1180](#), Section 1

Description: Annual report on the number of defendants who participated in each veterans treatment court program, successfully completed each program, and did not successfully complete each program. Report must also include the amount of grant funding received by each program.

Due Date: Not later than December 1 of each year

Recipients:

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

Study and Report on the Impact and Efficacy of Veterans County Service Officers in Texas (Texas Veterans Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 2104](#), Section 3

Description: Study by the Texas Veterans County Service Officer Task Force established by the bill to study the impact and efficacy of veterans county service officers in Texas. Specifically, the task force shall examine the role and duties of officers in each county, identify the regions of Texas that are in need of officers, and determine types and levels of support needed from the state in order for officers to appropriately advocate for the veterans served by the officers. Report submitted by the Texas Veterans Commission shall be based on recommendations of the task force.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Senate Committee on Veteran Affairs and Border Security
- House Committee on Defense and Veterans' Affairs

Expiration Date: January 1, 2021

Public Education

Report on the Effectiveness of State-Funded TEA Programs Administered by Non-Governmental Organizations (Texas Education Agency)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 74, Page III-25

Description: Report on the effectiveness of programs that receive funding appropriated to the Texas Education Agency (TEA) and are administered in part or in whole by non-governmental organizations. In collaboration with the Legislative Budget Board, TEA shall develop a list of the programs and entities to be evaluated in the report. The report shall identify and quantify whether measurable improvements in relevant student outcomes are attributable to each program.

Due Date: Not later than May 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Senate Education Committee
- Senate Finance Committee
- House Public Education Committee
- House Appropriations Committee
- Legislative Budget Board

Report on the Status and Funding of Special Education Services (Legislative Budget Board)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 9, Page X-3

Description: Report on the status and funding of special education services. Report will include a summary of the status of corrective actions required by the U.S. Department of Education and provide information on the implementation of the Texas Education Agency's Special Education Strategic Plan. Agency compliance with newly established special education requirements in the state budget, a summary of any new special education initiatives enacted by the 86th Legislature, and a listing of FY 2020 expenditures and FY 2021 budgeted amounts for special education services will also be included in the report.

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipient: Legislature

**Study and Report on Geographic Variations in Education Costs
and on School District Transportation Costs**
(Texas Education Agency)

Legislation: [House Bill 3](#), Section 1.019

Description: Study conducted by a public institution of higher education under a memorandum of understanding with the Texas Education Agency on geographic variations in known resource costs and costs of education due to factors beyond the control of school districts and on school district transportation costs. Study must include a review of cost drivers for school districts. Report shall provide the results of the study.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

**Recommendations Regarding Methods of Financing Special Education
Under the Public School Finance System**
(Special Education Allotment Advisory Committee)

Legislation: [House Bill 3](#), Section 1.026

Description: Recommendations by the Special Education Allotment Advisory Committee, with assistance from the Legislative Budget Board, regarding methods of financing special education under the public school finance system. Report must include a description of the current funding methods, specified data and analysis, and recommendations for improvements to the current funding methods or for the implementation of new funding methods.

Due Date: Not later than May 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

**Study and Report on Alternative Career Readiness Measures
for Small and Rural School Districts**
(Texas Education Agency)

Legislation: [House Bill 3](#), Section 1.031

Description: Study on alternative career readiness measures for small and rural school districts to determine if annual graduates demonstrate career readiness by earning an industry-accepted certificate during a time period established by rule of the commissioner of education. Report shall provide the results of the study and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2021

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Study and Report on School District Property Tax Compression
(Legislative Budget Board)

Legislation: [House Bill 3](#), Section 1A.007

Description: Study by the Legislative Budget Board, in conjunction with other appropriate state agencies, on possible methods of providing property tax relief through the reduction of school district maintenance and operations taxes. The study must evaluate the following: potential sources of revenue that may be used to reduce school district maintenance and operations taxes; methods of limiting increases in maintenance and operations tax revenue that adjust for enrollment growth, inflation, and other relevant factors; and certain specified factors for each method of providing property tax relief considered in the study. Report shall provide the results of the study and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Report on the Results of Periodic Evaluations of the Effectiveness of the Local Optional Teacher Designation Systems and Teacher Incentive Allotment (Texas Education Agency)

Legislation: [House Bill 3](#), Section 2.008

Description: Periodic evaluations of the effectiveness of the local optional teacher designation systems and teacher incentive allotment authorized by the bill. A school district or open-enrollment charter school that has implemented a local optional teacher designation system or received funds under the teacher incentive allotment shall participate in the evaluations. Report shall provide the results of the evaluations.

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipient: Legislature

Recommendations for Implementing a Financial Aid Application Requirement for High School Graduation (Texas Education Agency)

Legislation: [House Bill 3](#), Section 2.015

Description: Recommendations from an advisory committee established by the Texas Education Agency (TEA) to assist TEA in adopting rules to implement a financial aid application requirement for high school graduation. The rulemaking authorized by the bill includes rules to establish a timeline for the distribution to students of the free application for federal student aid or Texas application for state financial aid and the submission of a form allowing a student to receive an exception from complying with the financial aid application requirement. The rules also provide for standards regarding the information that a school district or open-enrollment charter school must provide to students regarding instructions for filling out an application, options available if a student wishes to decline to submit an application, and the method by which a student must provide proof that the student has submitted an application. In addition, the rules establish reporting requirements for school districts regarding the number of students who completed and submitted a financial aid application and who received an exception from complying with the financial aid application requirement. Ensuring compliance with federal and state law regarding the privacy of student information is also addressed by the rules. The report submitted by TEA shall provide the advisory committee's recommendations.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2021

Recipients: Standing committees of the senate and the house with jurisdiction over public education.

Expiration Date: January 1, 2023

Report on the Student/Teacher Ratio for Each Prekindergarten Class (Texas Education Agency)

Legislation: [House Bill 3](#), Sections 2.023 and 5.006

Description: Annual report based on information submitted by each school district that offers a prekindergarten program and by each private entity that provides a prekindergarten program under contract with a school district. The Texas Education Agency shall use the information submitted and the method of counting each teacher or teacher's aide established by the bill to calculate the student/teacher ratio for each prekindergarten class.

Due Date: Initial report due not later than August 1, 2020

Recipient: Legislature

Student Assessment Instrument Study and Report (Commissioner of Education)

Legislation: [House Bill 3](#), Section 2.036

Description: Study by a public institution of higher education under a memorandum of understanding with the commissioner of education to determine whether, for each applicable grade level, each assessment instrument administered during the 2018-2019 school year or scheduled to be administered during the 2019-2020 school year is written at the appropriate reading level for students in that grade level and includes only appropriate content as specified by the bill. Report submitted by the commissioner of education shall include the results of the study.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2019

Recipients:

- Legislature
- Presiding officer of each legislative standing committee with jurisdiction over primary and secondary education

**Report from Each School District on Salary or Wage Increases
Provided to School District Employees**
(Each school district)

Legislation: [House Bill 3](#), Section 5.008

Description: Report from each school district on salary or wage increases provided to school district employees for the 2019-2020 school year under the bill's provisions requiring salary or wage increases during any school year for which the maximum amount of the basic allotment is greater than the maximum amount provided for the preceding school year. Report must include, for each salary or wage increase, the employee's position at the school district and the amount of the increase.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipient: Legislature

Study and Report on Public School Mental Health Services
(Collaborative Task Force on Public School Mental Health Services)

Legislation: [House Bill 906](#), Section 1

Description: Biennial report by the Collaborative Task Force on Public School Mental Health Services with assistance from three public institutions of higher education designated by the commissioner of education as specified by the bill. The task force is required to gather specified data relating to public school mental health services and to study, evaluate, and make recommendations regarding the following: mental health services that are state funded and provided at a school district or open-enrollment charter school directly to students, parents, and employees; training provided to an educator employed by the district or school to provide such mental health services; and the impact such mental health services have on the number of school violent incidents, the suicide rate of individuals who are provided mental health services, the number of students referred to the Department of Family and Protective Services, the number of individuals who are transported for an emergency detention, and the number of students referred to outside counselors. The task force must also address certain outcome measures, the effectiveness of the services and training, best practices, and disparities in the demographics of individuals receiving the services. Report shall provide the results of the task force's activities and any recommendations for legislative or other action.

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

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Texas Education Agency

Expiration Date: December 1, 2025

Report on Actions Brought by School Districts to Recover Damages for Defective School District Facilities Financed by Bonds
(Attorney General)

Legislation: [House Bill 1734](#), Section 3

Description: Annual report on actions brought by school districts during the preceding year to recover damages for the defective design, construction, renovation, or improvement of a district facility financed by bonds. Report must include for each action the filing date, cause number, school district of the action, and court in which the action was brought.

Due Date: Not later than December 1 of each year

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Legislature
- Commissioner of education

Study and Report on the Investment and Management of Funds by School Districts and Open-Enrollment Charter Schools
(Texas Education Agency)

Legislation: [House Bill 2706](#), Section 6

Description: Study regarding the investment and management of funds by school districts and open-enrollment charter schools. Report must include the findings of the study and any recommendations for legislative action based on the findings.

Due Date: Not later than June 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

**Recommendations for Increasing Computer Science Instruction
and Participation in Public Schools**
(Computer Science Strategic Advisory Committee)

Legislation: [House Bill 2984](#), Section 2

Description: Report by the computer science strategic advisory committee established by the Texas Education Agency to develop and provide recommendations for increasing computer science instruction and participation in public schools. Report must include recommended changes to state law, including funding proposals and timelines for the implementation of the recommended changes, in accordance with specified goals.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature

Expiration Date: January 1, 2021

**Report on a Transition Plan to Administer All Required Assessment Instruments
Electronically**
(Texas Education Agency)

Legislation: [House Bill 3906](#), Section 6

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Texas Education Agency (TEA), in consultation with the State Board of Education, shall develop a transition plan to administer all required assessment instruments electronically beginning not later than

the 2022-2023 school year. The plan must identify and evaluate certain factors relating to the administration of online assessment instruments. TEA shall submit a report on the plan that includes information from school districts assessing the needs of those districts in transitioning to electronic administration, any recommended changes to state law to assist in the transition, and a recommended timeline for statewide implementation of electronic administration.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2023

Report on Whether an Integrated Formative Assessment Pilot Program Provided Any Improvement in Instructional Support
(Texas Education Agency)

Legislation: [House Bill 3906](#), Section 6

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Texas Education Agency (TEA) shall establish a pilot program in which participating school districts administer to students integrated formative assessment instruments for subjects or courses subject to assessment under state law relating to reading diagnosis or assessment of essential knowledge and skills. TEA shall submit a report on the pilot program that includes an analysis of whether the administration of integrated formative assessment instruments under the pilot program provided any improvement in instructional support during the preceding two school years and a determination of the feasibility of replacing required assessment instruments with integrated formative assessment instruments.

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

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Legislature

Study and Report on Distributions from the Permanent School Fund to the Available School Fund (Texas Education Agency)

Legislation: [House Bill 4388](#), Section 5

Description: Study by the Texas Education Agency, in consultation with the General Land Office, regarding distributions from the permanent school fund to the available school fund. The study must examine historical patterns, analyze the impact of underlying data, seek input from state government officials, examine current and alternative approaches to balance the needs and interests of beneficiaries of the permanent school fund and the available school fund, and develop options to maximize available revenue distributions as prescribed by the bill. Report must provide the results of the study.

Due Date: Not later than June 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Standing committees of the senate and the house with primary jurisdiction over public education
- State Board of Education
- Legislative Budget Board

Expiration Date: January 1, 2021

Report on a Rubric to Identify Student Mental Health Resources (Texas Education Agency)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 11](#), Section 19

Description: Biennial report by the Texas Education Agency (TEA), in conjunction with six specified state agencies and any other state agency TEA considers appropriate, on development of a rubric for use by regional education service centers in identifying resources related to student mental health that are available to schools in their respective regions. The rubric developed by TEA must provide for the identification of resources that support the mental health of students, including school-based programs, community-based programs, and public and private funding sources. The report must provide a

description of any changes TEA has made to the rubric to reflect changes in resources that may be available to schools.

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

Recipient: Legislature

Report on TEA Goals for Student Access to Mental Health Resources (Texas Education Agency)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 11](#), Section 19

Description: Biennial report on the Texas Education Agency's (TEA) goals developed as part of a statewide plan for student mental health to ensure all students have access to adequate mental health resources. TEA goals for student mental health access include goals relating to measuring positive school climate, increasing mental health interventions and resources for students in need of additional support, and increasing the availability of referrals to specialized services for students in need of additional support outside the school. The report must provide an analysis of each region's progress toward meeting TEA goals for student access to mental health resources.

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

Recipient: Legislature

Study and Report Regarding the Appropriate Methods and Standards to Evaluate Certain Students Participating in Regional Day School Programs for the Deaf (Texas Education Agency)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 54](#), Section 1

Description: Study regarding the appropriate methods and standards to evaluate the performance of a student who spends at least 50 percent of the instructional day participating in a regional day school program for the deaf and whose parent or person standing in parental relation to the student does not reside in the school district providing program services. Report of the study and any recommendations for legislative action.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients: Each standing committee of the legislature having primary jurisdiction over public education

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Public Retirement Systems

Investment Performance Report About Certain Public Retirement Systems (State Pension Review Board)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 322](#), Sections 3 and 4

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the State Pension Review Board is required to submit an investment performance report compiling and summarizing the information received by the board during the preceding two fiscal years from each public retirement system with total assets the book value of which, as of the last day of the preceding fiscal year, was at least \$30 million. The bill requires such a public retirement system, once every three years or six years, depending on the book value of the system's total assets, to select an independent firm with substantial experience in evaluating institutional investment practices and performance to evaluate the appropriateness, adequacy, and effectiveness of the retirement system's investment practices and performance and to make recommendations for improving the retirement system's investment policies, procedures, and practices. The bill specifies what each evaluation must include and requires the first evaluation of a public retirement system to be a comprehensive analysis of the retirement system's investment program that covers all asset classes.

Due Date: In November of each even-numbered year as part of the State Pension Review Board's biennial report to the legislature and governor

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Legislative committees having principal jurisdiction over legislation governing public retirement systems

Public Safety

Report on an Automated External Defibrillator Pilot Program at DPS (Department of Public Safety)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 46, Page V-56

Description: Pilot program to equip each patrol car in the Department of Public Safety's West Texas and Northwest Texas regions with an Automated External Defibrillator device. Report shall include data on the use of the device and where the device was deployed.

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipients:

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

Report on a Driver License Office Extended Hours Pilot Program at DPS (Department of Public Safety)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 52, Page V-57

Description: Three-month pilot program to extend the hours until 9 p.m. on weekdays of two rural and two urban driver license offices. Report shall include information and analysis regarding wait times and the number of customers served for both regular and extended office hours.

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipient: Legislature

Report on a Projected Timeline for the Completion of Laboratory Analyses of Unanalyzed Evidence of Sexual Assault or Other Sex Offense (Department of Public Safety)

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

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Department of Public Safety (DPS) shall prepare a report containing a projected timeline for the completion of laboratory analyses of all unanalyzed evidence collection kits pertaining to those active criminal cases that have not yet been submitted for laboratory analysis. Report shall contain requests for any necessary funding to accomplish the analyses and, as appropriate, application materials for the requests. If DPS determines that outsourcing certain evidence collection kits is necessary for timely analysis of the kits, the report shall contain a proposal for determining which evidence collection kits should be outsourced and a list of laboratories DPS determines are capable of completing the outsourced analyses.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Appropriate standing committees of the senate and the house

Expiration Date: September 1, 2023

**Study and Report on the Effectiveness of the Statewide Alert System
for Certain Missing Adults**
(Department of Public Safety)

Legislation: [House Bill 1769](#), Section 2

Description: Study on the effectiveness of the statewide alert system established by the bill to be activated when an adult is reported missing and the person is 18 years of age or older but younger than 65 years of age, the adult's location is unknown, and the adult has been missing for less than 72 hours. The study must investigate whether the statewide alert system fulfills its purpose and whether the system should be modified or expanded. Report shall include the results of the study and any recommendations for proposed legislation.

Due Date: Not later than December 31, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house

Expiration Date: December 31, 2021

Strategic Plan and Progress Reports Related to Preventing Human Trafficking in Texas

(Human Trafficking Prevention Coordinating Council)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 72](#), Sections 1 and 2

Description: Strategic plan for preventing human trafficking in Texas for each five-year period and annual reports detailing the progress of the strategic plan's implementation. The strategic plan must include the following:

- an inventory of human trafficking prevention programs and services in Texas that are administered by state agencies, including public institutions of higher education and political subdivisions;
- a report on the number of persons served by the programs and services; a plan to coordinate the programs and services to achieve the goals of eliminating redundancy, ensuring the agencies' use of best practices in preventing human trafficking, and identifying and collecting data regarding the efficacy of the programs and services; and
- a plan to coordinate the expenditure of state funds allocated to prevent human trafficking in Texas.

The annual progress reports must include the following:

- a description of the level of participation in the strategic plan by each agency represented on the human trafficking prevention coordinating council and how the implementation of the strategic plan serves to coordinate human trafficking programs and services and achieve the goals for such coordination; and
- An update of the inventory of human trafficking prevention programs and services and how each program or service furthers the goals of the strategic plan.

Due Dates: Not later than May 1, 2020 (initial five-year strategic plan); not later than December 1, 2021 (initial annual progress report). [House Bill 1](#) (Section 17.12, page IX-84) requires the human trafficking prevention coordinating council to develop an initial five-year strategic plan for preventing human trafficking encompassing fiscal years 2020 through 2024 by the same date and requires an initial annual progress report by the same date.

Recipient: Legislature

Report Regarding the Development and Implementation of Best Practices for Personal Information Held by DPS

(Department of Public Safety)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 616](#), Section 1.005

Description: Report regarding the development and implementation of best practices for the collection, protection, and sharing of personal information held by the Department of Public Safety.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020

Recipient: Legislature

Report on Border Crime and Other Criminal Activity DPS Determines Relates to Border Security
(Department of Public Safety)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 616](#), Section 2.001

Description: Annual report on border crime and other criminal activity the Department of Public Safety (DPS) determines relates to border security. Report must include monthly and yearly crime statistics for each county included in a DPS region that is adjacent to the Texas-Mexico border as well as statewide crime statistics for the reported crimes. In compiling the information for the report, DPS shall use information available in the National Incident-Based Reporting System of the Uniform Crime Reporting Program of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Texas Incident-Based Reporting System of the department.

Due Date: Not later than May 30 of each year

Recipient: Legislature

Study and Report on the Feasibility of Transferring the Driver's License Program from DPS to TxDMV
(Independent, third-party contractor under contract with the Department of Public Safety)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 616](#), Section 6.005

Description: Feasibility study by an independent, third-party contractor under contract with the Department of Public Safety (DPS) that examines and makes recommendations on the management and operating structure of the driver's license program and the opportunities and challenges of transferring the driver's license program from DPS to the

Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV). In conducting the study, DPS, TxDMV, and the independent, third-party contractor are prohibited from disclosing any personal information obtained in conducting the study. Provisions of the bill relating to conditional transfer of the driver's license program from DPS to TxDMV take effect only if the report on the study is not submitted by the due date.

Due Date: Not later than September 1, 2020. [House Bill 1](#) (Rider 53, page V-58) requires an independent, third-party contractor under contract with the Department of Public Safety to submit a report on the feasibility of transferring the driver's license program from the Department of Public Safety to the Department of Motor Vehicles by the same date. The rider also requires the contractor to consider making the driver's license program a standalone agency and to study methods to incentivize driver license online renewal for eligible individuals.

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature
- Sunset Advisory Commission
- Department of Public Safety
- Texas Department of Motor Vehicles

State Government

Report on Alternate Locations for State Records and Archives Storage Facilities (Texas State Library and Archives Commission)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 11, Page I-82

Description: Report on alternate locations for facilities used to store state records and archived materials. The goal of the report is to ensure that funds for storage are being expended in a cost-effective manner.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2019

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislative Budget Board

Revised Reporting Requirement for Efforts to Improve Cybersecurity in Texas (Department of Information Resources)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 64](#), Section 9

Description: Biennial report identifying preventive and recovery efforts the state can undertake to improve cybersecurity in Texas. The report will now include an evaluation of a program that provides an information security officer to assist small state agencies and local governments that are unable to justify hiring a full-time information security officer. It will no longer include an evaluation of the costs and benefits of cybersecurity insurance and of tertiary disaster recovery options.

Due Date: Next report due not later than November 15, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Standing committee of each house of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over state government operations

Revised Reporting Requirement for the Use of Information Resources Technologies by State Government

(Department of Information Resources)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 65](#), Section 3

Description: Revised reporting requirement on the use of information resources technologies by state government. The biennial report by the Department of Information Resources will no longer examine the following: major information resources projects completed in the previous state fiscal biennium to determine the performance of the implementing state agency, cost and value effectiveness, timeliness, and other performance criteria necessary to assess the quality and value of the investment; and major information resources projects after the second anniversary of the project's completion to determine progress toward meeting performance goals and operating budget savings.

Due Date: Next report due not later than November 15, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature

New Reporting Requirement for Monitoring Major Information Resources Projects and Associated Contracts of State Agencies

(Quality assurance team created by the Comptroller of Public Accounts, State Auditor, Legislative Budget Board, and Department of Information Resources)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 65](#), Section 5

Description: New reporting requirement related to the monitoring of major information resources projects and associated contracts of state agencies by the quality assurance team created by the comptroller, state auditor, Legislative Budget Board, and Department of Information Resources under existing law. The monitoring will now include a biennial report containing the following information:

- the required performance indicator report for each major information resources project, including the schedule, cost, scope, and quality of each project;
- a summary of any major issues identified in state agency reports submitted in response to a request for a verification and validation report or quality assurance report related to a project;
- an appendix containing any justifications submitted to the quality assurance team for a contract amendment if the total value of the amended contract exceeds or

will exceed the initial contract value by 10 percent or more, or the amendment requires the contractor to provide consultative services, technical expertise, or other assistance in defining project scope or deliverables; and

- any additional information considered appropriate by the quality assurance team.

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

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Presiding officer of the standing committee of each house of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over appropriations

**Revised Submission of a Report Evaluating Information Security
for Texas' Information Resources**
(Department of Information Resources)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 241](#), Section 1.14

Description: Biennial report evaluating information security for Texas' information resources that now will be submitted also to each standing committee of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over matters relating to the Department of Information Resources, rather than to the legislature, and will be submitted not later than November 15 of each even-numbered year, rather than not later than January 13 of each odd-numbered year.

Due Date: Next report due not later than November 15, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Each standing committee of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over matters related to the Department of Information Resources

Report on Deferred Maintenance Projects at State Buildings
(Joint Oversight Committee on Government Facilities)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 401](#), Section 2

Description: Biannual report by the Joint Oversight Committee on Government Facilities created by the bill to review deferred maintenance plans and receive implementation updates relating to state buildings. Report must identify the amount of money expended for deferred maintenance, planned deferred maintenance projects, and the status of ongoing and completed deferred maintenance projects.

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipient: Legislature

Expiration Date: September 1, 2025

Consolidation of Annual Reporting Requirements of the Texas Workforce Commission

(Texas Workforce Commission)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 1413](#), Sections 1 through 6

Description: Consolidation of annual reporting requirements of the Texas Workforce Commission (TWC) into the TWC supplemental annual report to the governor and legislature, which now will include the following: a financial report in a prescribed form relating to TWC activities under the statute chapter governing purchasing from people with disabilities; a report, after consultation with the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, on administration of the College Credit for Heroes program to maximize academic or workforce education credit awarded by institutions of higher education to veterans and military service members for military experience, education, and training obtained during military service; a report on the effectiveness of federal programs designed to provide trade adjustment assistance to Texans; a report on the status of the skills development fund; and a report regarding the Texas Career Opportunity Grant Program, including specific information on the number of affected students.

Due Date: Next report due as soon as practicable after the close of the 2020 fiscal year

Recipients:

- Governor
- Legislature

Transportation

Study and Report on the Ports-to-Plains Transportation Corridor (Texas Department of Transportation)

Legislation: [House Bill 1079](#), Section 1

Description: Study by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT), with assistance from an advisory committee and segment committees established by TxDOT, regarding the highways designated as the Ports-to-Plains Corridor under Section 225.069, Transportation Code. The study must evaluate the feasibility of, and the costs and logistical matters associated with, improvements that create a continuous flow, four-lane divided highway that meets interstate highway standards to the extent possible, including improvements that extend Interstate Highway 27 as specified by the bill. Report shall reflect certain information submitted to TxDOT by each segment committee and the advisory committee.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2021

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house
- Presiding officer of each standing committee of the senate and the house with jurisdiction over transportation matters

Expiration Date: August 31, 2021

Report on Actions Taken by TxDOT to Provide Voluntary Joint Trenching Opportunities in the State's Right-of-Way for Broadband Providers (Texas Department of Transportation)

Legislation: [House Bill 2422](#), Section 1

Description: Annual report that explains the actions taken by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in carrying out the bill's requirement that TxDOT provide notice on its Internet website of ongoing and planned highway construction projects for which TxDOT will provide voluntary joint trenching opportunities in the state's right-of-way for broadband providers. The bill requires TxDOT to give special consideration to broadband deployment that is likely to improve access to broadband by rural or underserved

communities and, to the extent practicable, to assist political subdivisions in taking advantage of voluntary joint trenching opportunities. Report must identify any costs or cost savings to the state and private entities associated with voluntary joint trenching opportunities.

Due Date: No specific due date stated

Recipient: Legislature

Study and Report on Increasing Navigation on the Red River (Red River Authority of Texas)

Legislation: [House Bill 4166](#), Section 1

Description: Study of the feasibility of increasing navigation on the Red River between Texarkana and Denison by completing the navigation system of locks and dams or other means. Report shall provide the findings of the study.

Due Date: Not later than January 1, 2021

Recipients: Standing committees of the senate and the house with jurisdiction over navigation

Expiration Date: January 2, 2021

Study and Report on Imposing Fees on Alternately Fueled Vehicles (Texas Department of Motor Vehicles)

Legislation: [Senate Bill 604](#), Section 6.01

Description: Study organized by the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles (TxDMV) using existing funds and conducted by TxDMV and the Public Utility Commission of Texas, the Texas Department of Transportation, the Department of Public Safety, and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality on the following:

- the impact of the alternately fueled vehicles industry on the state;
- the options available to the state for collecting fees from owners of alternately fueled vehicles to replace the loss of revenue from motor fuel taxes; and
- the feasibility and desirability of establishing a fee for alternately fueled vehicles.

The study must examine:

- the current revenue generated from motor fuel taxes imposed on a conventional vehicle and each type of alternatively fueled vehicle for each mile the vehicle is operated;
- the net revenue generated by fees and taxes paid by owners of alternatively fueled vehicles and conventional vehicles for the use of the vehicle, including motor vehicle registration fees, motor fuel taxes, and taxes, fees, and surcharges on the retail sale of electricity consumed by alternatively fueled vehicles;
- the methods to determine the average number of miles traveled in Texas by alternatively fueled vehicles and conventional vehicles each year;
- the type and amount of fees by which other states generate revenue from alternatively fueled vehicles and conventional vehicles;
- alternative methods for determining and collecting road use fees from owners of alternatively fueled vehicles, including methods that consider the weight of and the number of miles traveled by an alternatively fueled vehicle;
- the projected revenue to the state for each of those methods;
- the projected impact of alternatively fueled vehicles on the state highway system, including the maintenance required because of the impact;
- the projected direct environmental benefit of alternatively fueled vehicles on vehicle emissions in Texas; and
- the projected impact of alternatively fueled vehicles to the state's power grids and electricity markets.

The report prepared and submitted by TxDMV shall include a summary of the results of the study and any legislative recommendations based on the study.

Due Date: Not later than December 1, 2020

Recipients:

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

Expiration Date: September 1, 2021

Water

Study Related to Designating Priority Zones for the Production of Brackish Groundwater in Aquifers Throughout Texas

(Texas Water Development Board)

Legislation: [House Bill 1](#), Rider 24, Page VI-62

Description: Study related to designating priority zones for the production of brackish groundwater in aquifers throughout the state, excluding the Dockum Aquifer. Report shall provide information on the progress of the study.

Due Date: Not later than December 1 of each year

Recipient: Legislature

Report on a Statewide Survey to Identify Aquifers for Use in Aquifer Storage and Recovery and Aquifer Recharge Projects

(Texas Water Development Board)

Legislation: [House Bill 721](#), Section 1

Description: Subject to the availability of funds, the Texas Water Development Board (TWDB) shall conduct a statewide survey to identify the relative suitability of various major and minor aquifers for use in aquifer storage and recovery projects or aquifer recharge projects based on consideration of the following: hydrogeological characteristics, with a focus on storage potential, transmissivity, infiltration characteristics, storativity, recoverability, and water quality; the frequency, volume, and distance from excess water available for potential storage; and the current and future water supply needs identified in the state water plan. Report shall include an overview of the statewide survey conducted by TWDB under the bill.

Due Date: Not later than December 15, 2020

Recipients:

- Governor
- Lieutenant Governor
- Speaker of the house

Expiration Date: January 1, 2021

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