

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of an interagency coordinating council for the prevention of child abuse and neglect.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Subtitle E, Title 5, Family Code, is amended by adding Chapter 266 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 266. INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR  
BUILDING HEALTHY FAMILIES

Sec. 266.001. INTERAGENCY COORDINATING COUNCIL FOR  
BUILDING HEALTHY FAMILIES. (a) The Interagency Coordinating  
Council for Building Healthy Families is established to facilitate  
communication and collaboration concerning policies for the  
prevention of and early intervention in child abuse and neglect  
among state agencies whose programs and services promote and foster  
healthy families.

(b) The council consists of one representative from each of  
the following agencies appointed by the executive director or  
commissioner of each agency:

- (1) the Department of Family and Protective Services;
- (2) the Health and Human Services Commission;
- (3) the Department of State Health Services;
- (4) the Department of Aging and Disability Services;
- (5) the Texas Youth Commission;
- (6) the Texas Education Agency;

- 1           (7) the Texas Workforce Commission;  
2           (8) the office of the attorney general;  
3           (9) the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission; and  
4           (10) the Texas Department of Housing and Community  
5 Affairs.

6           (c) A representative of an agency appointed to the council  
7 must have an overall understanding of the agency's mission and  
8 purpose and substantial experience and expertise relating to the  
9 administration of the agency's policies, programs, and activities.

10          (d) The representative from the Department of Family and  
11 Protective Services serves as the presiding officer of the council.

12          (e) The council shall meet at least quarterly and shall  
13 submit to the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of  
14 representatives, and the legislature the minutes of each council  
15 meeting.

16          (f) Not later than June 1, 2006, the council shall prepare  
17 and submit to the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house of  
18 representatives, and the legislature an inventory of the child  
19 abuse and neglect prevention and early intervention policies,  
20 programs, and activities of each agency represented on the council.

21          (g) Not later than December 1, 2006, the council shall  
22 prepare and submit to the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the  
23 house of representatives, and the legislature a report containing  
24 the council's recommendations for improving the coordination and  
25 collaboration of child abuse and neglect prevention and early  
26 intervention programs and services among state agencies and the  
27 council's recommendation regarding whether to continue the

1 council.

2 Sec. 266.002. EXPIRATION OF CHAPTER. This chapter expires  
3 September 1, 2007.

4 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
5 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
6 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
7 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
8 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

David Swinhurst

President of the Senate

Tom Craddick

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1685 was passed by the House on April 19, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 143, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Robert Haney  
Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 1685 was passed by the Senate on May 24, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Patricia Shaw  
Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: 17 JUNE '05

Date

Rick Perry

Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
11:25 AM CLOCK  
Roger Williams  
17 2005  
Secretary of State