

Laying the Foundation for Long-Term Child Care Reform

A Strategic Approach to Strengthen Early Childhood

TX2036



Child care providers face **overlapping, inconsistent requirements** from multiple state agencies, creating operational burdens and undermining system coherence.



Policymakers and program leaders **lack access to integrated early childhood data**, making it difficult to assess outcomes, target resources or improve system performance.



Texas' **early childhood landscape lacks** unified leadership, leaving programs disjointed, responsibilities unclear, and long-term strategic objectives and planning largely absent.

The 2025 Texas Legislative Session took a **multi-pronged approach** to address **immediate child care challenges**, while creating a **path to comprehensive policy reforms in 2027**.

Addressing Immediate Child Care Challenges

Reducing Regulatory Confusion that Limits Access & Drives Costs

HB 4903 by Rep. Harris-Davila & Sen. Birdwell

Aligns agency oversight across four state agencies involved in childcare to reduce regulatory conflict and confusion for providers.

Addressing Workforce Constraints in Child Care Sector

SB 462 by Sen. Kolkhorst & Rep. Harris-Davila

Prioritizes access to existing child care subsidies to individuals who work in child care to address labor shortages for child care centers.

Increasing Child Care Subsidies

SB 1 by Sen. Huffman & Rep. Bonnen

Adds an extra \$100 million in state funding to increase access to subsidized child care.

Equipping Agencies & Lawmakers for the Future

Creating Long-Term Governance Plan for Child Care

HB 117 by Rep. Schoolcraft & Sen. Campbell

Creates a Governor-led task force to seek long-term policy solutions for persistent child care challenges, including divided governance, agency accountability and inconsistent goals.

Improving Data Quality to Allow for Targeted Policy Solutions

HB 3963 by Rep. Capriglione & Sen. Paxton

Establishes the framework for inter-agency data sharing and allows the development of an interoperable data infrastructure so state leaders can better understand the challenges facing our state's many communities.

For questions,
please contact



Charles Miller,
Director of Health and Economic Mobility Policy
✉ charles.miller@texas2036.org