

1-1 By: Frank, Guillen (Senate Sponsor - Estes) H.B. No. 2655
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 6, 2015;
1-3 May 7, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Health
1-4 and Human Services; May 21, 2015, rereferred to Committee on
1-5 Intergovernmental Relations; May 25, 2015, reported favorably by
1-6 the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 25, 2015, sent to
1-7 printer.)

1-8 COMMITTEE VOTE

1-9		Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-10	Lucio	X			
1-11	Bettencourt			X	
1-12	Campbell	X			
1-13	Garcia	X			
1-14	Menéndez	X			
1-15	Nichols	X			
1-16	Taylor of Galveston			X	

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to requiring the Department of Family and Protective
1-20 Services to study the effectiveness of the relative and other
1-21 designated caregiver placement program.

1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-23 SECTION 1. Subchapter I, Chapter 264, Family Code, is
1-24 amended by adding Section 264.761 to read as follows:

1-25 Sec. 264.761. STUDY OF PROGRAM. (a) The department shall
1-26 study the effectiveness of the relative and other designated
1-27 caregiver placement program created by this subchapter and make
1-28 recommendations to the legislature for improving the program. The
1-29 recommended improvements must be designed to minimize the number of
1-30 placements for each child, maximize efficiency in the distribution
1-31 of any monetary or other assistance for which caregivers qualify,
1-32 facilitate a safe and permanent exit from the managing
1-33 conservatorship of the department in as timely a fashion as
1-34 possible, and assist caregivers in obtaining the verification
1-35 necessary to qualify for foster care maintenance reimbursement.
1-36 The recommendations may include increases in the amount of
1-37 assistance and the identification of automated or other processes
1-38 designed to speed the payment of assistance.

1-39 (b) The department shall report its findings and
1-40 recommendations to the legislature not later than January 1, 2017.

1-41 (c) This section expires September 1, 2017.

1-42 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

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