

1-1 By: A. Davis of Dallas (Senate Sponsor - Paxton) H.B. No. 4129
 1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 30, 2025;
 1-3 May 1, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Health &
 1-4 Human Services; May 23, 2025, reported favorably by the following
 1-5 vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 23, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			
1-13	X			
1-14			X	
1-15	X			
1-16	X			

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

1-19 relating to the contract requirements for a contract between a
 1-20 single source continuum contractor and the Department of Family and
 1-21 Protective Services.

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

1-23 SECTION 1. Section 264.155(a), Family Code, is amended to
 1-24 read as follows:

1-25 (a) A contract with a single source continuum contractor to
 1-26 provide community-based care services in a catchment area must
 1-27 include provisions that:

1-28 (1) establish a timeline for the implementation of
 1-29 community-based care in the catchment area, including a timeline
 1-30 for implementing:

1-31 (A) case management services for children,
 1-32 families, and relative and kinship caregivers receiving services in
 1-33 the catchment area; and

1-34 (B) family reunification support services to be
 1-35 provided after a child receiving services from the contractor is
 1-36 returned to the child's family;

1-37 (2) establish conditions for the single source
 1-38 continuum contractor's access to relevant department data and
 1-39 require the participation of the contractor in the data access and
 1-40 standards governance council created under Section 264.159;

1-41 (3) require the single source continuum contractor to
 1-42 create a single process for the training and use of alternative
 1-43 caregivers for all child-placing agencies in the catchment area to
 1-44 facilitate reciprocity of licenses for alternative caregivers
 1-45 between agencies, including respite and overnight care providers,
 1-46 as those terms are defined by department rule;

1-47 (4) require the single source continuum contractor to
 1-48 maintain a diverse network of service providers that offer a range
 1-49 of foster capacity options and that can accommodate children from
 1-50 diverse cultural backgrounds;

1-51 (5) allow the department to conduct a performance
 1-52 review of the contractor beginning 18 months after the contractor
 1-53 has begun providing case management and family reunification
 1-54 support services to all children and families in the catchment area
 1-55 and determine if the contractor has achieved any performance
 1-56 outcomes specified in the contract;

1-57 (6) following the review under Subdivision (5), allow
 1-58 the department to:

1-59 (A) impose financial penalties on the contractor
 1-60 for failing to meet any specified performance outcomes; or

1-61 (B) award financial incentives to the contractor

2-1 for exceeding any specified performance outcomes;
2-2 (7) require the contractor to give preference for
2-3 employment to employees of the department:
2-4 (A) whose position at the department is impacted
2-5 by the implementation of community-based care; and
2-6 (B) who are considered by the department to be
2-7 employees in good standing;
2-8 (8) require the contractor to provide preliminary and
2-9 ongoing community engagement plans to ensure communication and
2-10 collaboration with local stakeholders in the catchment area,
2-11 including any of the following:
2-12 (A) community faith-based entities;
2-13 (B) the judiciary;
2-14 (C) court-appointed special advocates;
2-15 (D) child advocacy centers;
2-16 (E) service providers;
2-17 (F) foster families;
2-18 (G) biological parents;
2-19 (H) foster youth and former foster youth;
2-20 (I) relative or kinship caregivers;
2-21 (J) child welfare boards, if applicable;
2-22 (K) attorneys ad litem;
2-23 (L) attorneys that represent parents involved in
2-24 suits filed by the department; and
2-25 (M) any other stakeholders, as determined by the
2-26 contractor; ~~and~~
2-27 (9) require that the contractor comply with any
2-28 applicable court order issued by a court of competent jurisdiction
2-29 in the case of a child for whom the contractor has assumed case
2-30 management responsibilities or an order imposing a requirement on
2-31 the department that relates to functions assumed by the contractor;
2-32 and
2-33 (10) require the department to implement formal
2-34 measures to ensure the contractor is delivering high-quality
2-35 service, including quality improvement plans, financial
2-36 interventions, and other appropriate interventions or
2-37 restrictions.
2-38 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
2-39 to a contract entered into or amended, modified, renewed, or
2-40 extended on or after the effective date of this Act. A contract
2-41 entered into or amended, modified, renewed, or extended before the
2-42 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the
2-43 date the contract was entered into or amended, modified, renewed,
2-44 or extended, and the former law is continued in effect for that
2-45 purpose.
2-46 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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