

1-1 By: Harris Davila, et al. H.B. No. 4903  
 1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Birdwell)  
 1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 12, 2025;  
 1-4 May 13, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Health &  
 1-5 Human Services; May 23, 2025, reported favorably by the following  
 1-6 vote: Yeas 8, Nays 0; May 23, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
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	X			

1-18 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
 1-19 AN ACT

1-20 relating to the establishment of the Quad-Agency Child Care  
 1-21 Initiative and the Quad-Agency Child Care Initiative Commission.

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

1-23 SECTION 1. Subtitle B, Title 3, Human Resources Code, is  
 1-24 amended by adding Chapter 74 to read as follows:

1-25 CHAPTER 74. QUAD-AGENCY CHILD CARE INITIATIVE

1-26 Sec. 74.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

1-27 (1) "Commission" means the Quad-Agency Child Care  
 1-28 Initiative Commission unless the context indicates otherwise.

1-29 (2) "Initiative" means the Quad-Agency Child Care  
 1-30 Initiative established under this chapter.

1-31 (3) "Participating agency" means a state agency  
 1-32 participating in the initiative, including:

1-33 (A) the Texas Workforce Commission;

1-34 (B) the Health and Human Services Commission;

1-35 (C) the Department of Family and Protective  
 1-36 Services; and

1-37 (D) the Texas Education Agency.

1-38 (4) "Quad-Agency chair" means the chair of the  
 1-39 commission.

1-40 Sec. 74.002. PURPOSE. (a) The Quad-Agency Child Care  
 1-41 Initiative is established to foster collaboration, coordinate  
 1-42 policies, and review and streamline regulations between the  
 1-43 participating agencies that govern child care in the state.

1-44 (b) The Quad-Agency Child Care Initiative Commission is  
 1-45 established to lead the Quad-Agency Child Care Initiative.

1-46 Sec. 74.003. MEMBERSHIP. (a) The commission is composed of  
 1-47 the following members:

1-48 (1) the chair of the Texas Workforce Commission;

1-49 (2) the executive commissioner of the Health and Human  
 1-50 Services Commission;

1-51 (3) the commissioner of the Department of Family and  
 1-52 Protective Services; and

1-53 (4) the commissioner of education.

1-54 (b) The chair of the Texas Workforce Commission shall serve  
 1-55 as the chair of the commission.

1-56 Sec. 74.004. INTERAGENCY STAFFING. (a) The participating  
 1-57 agencies shall enter into one or more interagency agreements  
 1-58 establishing policies and processes for coordinating the  
 1-59 assignment of existing staff and other resources as necessary to  
 1-60 perform the duties of this chapter.

1-61 (b) The time spent by an employee of a participating agency

2-1 in supporting the work of the initiative is not included in  
 2-2 calculating the number of full-time equivalent employees allotted  
 2-3 to the respective agencies under other law.

2-4 Sec. 74.005. DUTIES. The commission shall:

2-5 (1) coordinate participating agency initiatives that  
 2-6 impact the cost, quality, or accessibility of child care;

2-7 (2) consider and start interagency initiatives to  
 2-8 expand access to quality, affordable child care; and

2-9 (3) review and streamline existing or proposed  
 2-10 regulations, rules, policies, or any other participating agency  
 2-11 actions that impact the child-care industry to:

2-12 (A) resolve regulatory conflicts and duplication  
 2-13 among participating agencies;

2-14 (B) lower insurance costs for child-care  
 2-15 providers;

2-16 (C) protect the health and safety of children  
 2-17 participating in child care;

2-18 (D) advance quality education for child-care  
 2-19 providers; and

2-20 (E) create consistent, predictable, and  
 2-21 reasonable enforcement mechanisms among participating agencies.

2-22 Sec. 74.006. MEETINGS. (a) The commission shall meet at  
 2-23 least three times each year.

2-24 (b) The commission may meet in person or using a virtual  
 2-25 platform that allows for a recording and live broadcast that is  
 2-26 accessible to the public.

2-27 (c) The commission is a governmental body for purposes of  
 2-28 Chapter 551, Government Code.

2-29 Sec. 74.007. REVIEW BY COMMISSION. (a) The Quad-Agency  
 2-30 chair may initiate an independent review by the commission of any  
 2-31 existing or proposed regulation, rule, policy, or other  
 2-32 participating agency action that may impact the cost, quality, or  
 2-33 accessibility of child care to determine whether:

2-34 (1) the regulation, rule, policy, or other agency  
 2-35 action is consistent with the objectives identified in Section  
 2-36 74.005(3); and

2-37 (2) a less restrictive regulation, rule, policy, or  
 2-38 other agency action could more effectively achieve the objectives  
 2-39 identified in Section 74.005(3).

2-40 (b) In conducting a review under this section, the  
 2-41 Quad-Agency chair may request additional information from a  
 2-42 participating agency. A participating agency shall provide the  
 2-43 additional information in writing as soon as practicable after  
 2-44 receiving a request under this section.

2-45 (c) The commission shall:

2-46 (1) not later than the 10th business day after the date  
 2-47 a review is initiated under this chapter, provide notice of the  
 2-48 review, including instructions on how to submit public comments on  
 2-49 the review:

2-50 (A) on the Texas Workforce Commission's Internet  
 2-51 website;

2-52 (B) by e-mail to individuals who have subscribed  
 2-53 to receive notifications through the Texas Workforce Commission's  
 2-54 Internet website; and

2-55 (C) using any other relevant stakeholder  
 2-56 communication platforms; and

2-57 (2) make the following available to the public on the  
 2-58 Texas Workforce Commission's Internet website for each review  
 2-59 conducted under this chapter for not less than two years from the  
 2-60 date a determination is made under Section 74.011:

2-61 (A) all public comments submitted;

2-62 (B) all written agency submissions; and

2-63 (C) the determination of the commission based on  
 2-64 the review.

2-65 Sec. 74.008. RIGHT TO REQUEST REVIEW. (a) The commission  
 2-66 shall establish a process by which members of the public, elected  
 2-67 officials, or leadership from agencies that are not participating  
 2-68 agencies may request a review of any existing or proposed  
 2-69 regulation, rule, policy, or other participating agency action that

3-1 may impact the cost, quality, or accessibility of child care.

3-2 (b) The Quad-Agency chair may grant a request to conduct a  
3-3 review requested under this section.

3-4 (c) The commission shall make all requests for review  
3-5 submitted under this section available to the public on the Texas  
3-6 Workforce Commission's Internet website for not less than two years  
3-7 from the date the commission receives the request.

3-8 Sec. 74.009. EXPEDITED REVIEW. (a) A participating agency  
3-9 whose existing or proposed regulation, rule, policy, or other  
3-10 agency action is being reviewed under Section 74.007 may request an  
3-11 expedited review.

3-12 (b) The Quad-Agency chair shall grant a request for  
3-13 expedited review if the participating agency demonstrates:

3-14 (1) an extraordinary circumstance; or

3-15 (2) the need to meet a statutory or administrative  
3-16 deadline.

3-17 (c) If a request for an expedited review is granted, the  
3-18 Quad-Agency chair shall coordinate with the participating agency to  
3-19 accommodate completion of the review within the timeline requested  
3-20 by the agency.

3-21 Sec. 74.010. PUBLIC COMMENT. (a) For each review conducted  
3-22 under this chapter, the commission shall accept public comment  
3-23 through the Texas Workforce Commission's Internet website from the  
3-24 date notice regarding the review is provided under Section  
3-25 74.007(c)(1) until:

3-26 (1) the end of the 30th day after that date; or

3-27 (2) the end of the 10th day after that date for an  
3-28 expedited review granted under Section 74.009.

3-29 (b) As part of a review under this chapter, the Quad-Agency  
3-30 chair:

3-31 (1) shall consider all comments received within the  
3-32 public comment period provided under Subsection (a); and

3-33 (2) may consider public comments received outside of  
3-34 the public comment period provided under Subsection (a).

3-35 Sec. 74.011. DETERMINATION. (a) After a public comment  
3-36 period under Section 74.010 has closed, the commission shall render  
3-37 the commission's determination as to whether or not the existing or  
3-38 proposed regulation, rule, policy, or other participating agency  
3-39 action reviewed under this chapter is consistent with the  
3-40 objectives identified in Section 74.005(3).

3-41 (b) If the commission determines that the existing or  
3-42 proposed regulation, rule, policy, or other participating agency  
3-43 action reviewed under this chapter:

3-44 (1) is consistent with the objectives identified in  
3-45 Section 74.005(3), no further action will be taken; or

3-46 (2) is inconsistent with the objectives identified in  
3-47 Section 74.005(3), the participating agency whose existing or  
3-48 proposed regulation, rule, policy, or other agency action was the  
3-49 subject of the review shall:

3-50 (A) immediately cease any enforcement activity  
3-51 related to the regulation, rule, policy, or other agency action;

3-52 (B) withdraw the regulation, rule, policy, or  
3-53 other agency action as soon as practicable; and

3-54 (C) if the participating agency considers  
3-55 appropriate, replace it with a less restrictive regulation, rule,  
3-56 policy, or other agency action.

3-57 (c) The commission may provide suggestions to a  
3-58 participating agency on less restrictive regulations, rules,  
3-59 policies, or other agency actions the agency may adopt to replace a  
3-60 regulation, rule, policy, or other agency action that the  
3-61 commission considers inconsistent with the objectives identified  
3-62 in Section 74.005(3).

3-63 (d) This section may not be construed to authorize the  
3-64 commission to require a participating agency to adopt a less  
3-65 restrictive regulation, rule, policy, or other agency action  
3-66 suggested by the commission under Subsection (c).

3-67 SECTION 2. Not later than March 31, 2026, the Quad-Agency  
3-68 Child Care Initiative Commission shall hold the first meeting  
3-69 required under Section 74.006, Human Resources Code, as added by

4-1 this Act.

4-2 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
4-3 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
4-4 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
4-5 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
4-6 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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