

Bill Number	Author/District	Subject	Details	Comments	Status
HB 67	Lucio III/Austin	Medical assistance buy-in program, children with disabilities	Directs HHS commissioner to develop/implement a Medicaid buy-in program for children with developmental disabilities (<18, cannot engage in substantial gainful work) whose family income does not exceed 300% of federal poverty level	Funding is unclear.	Filed
HB 153	Olivo/Missouri City	Promotion of students to grade levels	Specifies actions to be taken if students cannot be promoted as a result of assessment instruments, grade placement committee accelerated instruction, educational plan	No provision for children with developmental disabilities. May be in the Education Code in other sections...	Filed
SB 23	Zaffirini/Laredo	Period of continuous eligibility for medical assistance program	Provides for continuous medical assistance to children <19, who cannot engage in substantial gainful work, whose families are below the poverty line, without review until the earlier of first anniversary of eligibility or 19 th birthday	Modified earlier law which specified review after 6 months or 19 th birthday	Filed
SB 25	Zaffirini/Laredo	Duration of interagency task force on ensuring appropriate care settings for persons with disabilities	Prevents the task force from being abolished four years after its creation		Filed
SB 30	Zaffirini/Laredo	Restoration of medically needy program under state Medicaid program	Reenacts the program for pregnant women, children, caretakers, and adults with high medical expenses.	For people under 130% of poverty level. Among other things the program provided for respite care by hospitals, respiratory therapy, physical therapy, molar settings, medical screenings, etc.	Filed
SB 35	Zaffirini/Laredo	Mortality review for certain individuals who are developmentally disabled	Requires a mortality review on the death of an individual with development disabilities who resides in or receives services from a facility or agency operated/licensed	No funding specified.	Filed
SB 50	Zaffirini/Laredo	Pilot lifespan respite program	Establishes a pilot lifespan respite service	Pilot program ends Sep 1, 2013. DADS/HHS are to	Filed

				report in 2010.	
SB 70	Nelson/ Grapevine	Investigation of abuse, neglect, exploitation in an intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded	Basically makes D. Family Protective Svcs responsible for investigating.	Unclear that DFPS is funded/staffed for this.	Filed
SB 167	Ellis/ Houston	Applicability of death penalty for a person with mental retardation	A person with mental retardation at the time of the commission of the capital offense may not be sentenced to death.		Filed
SB 187	Deuell/ Mesquite	Medicaid buy-in program for children with disabilities	Develop and implement a Medicaid buy-in program for children under 18 cannot engage in substantial gainful work and whose family income does not exceed 300% of federal poverty level	Funding is unclear.	Filed
SB 277	Nelson/ Grapevine	Directs DFPS to investigate abuse, neglect, exploitation for adults who are elderly/disabled, criminal penalty	<p>Powers for DFPS:</p> <p>Access to financial records</p> <p>Requires background checks for certain individuals</p> <p>May require background checks for others</p> <p>May charge for those checks</p> <p>Provide protective services to those in state of abuse</p> <p>Requires biennial satisfaction survey</p> <p>False report = class A misdemeanor</p> <p>Can interview victim, juvenile perp, private interviews</p> <p>Task force</p> <p>Investigatory department/agency has access to all above documents</p> <p>Investigation w/o victim's consent if victim judged to lack capacity</p> <p>Specifies who assess capacity</p> <p>Protective services and court</p>		Filed
SB 301	Shapleigh/ Wichita Falls	Caseload assignment for DFPS	Average caseload for caseworkers in child protective services division will allow each child in conservatorship to be visited by the caseworker at least once per month	Unclear how the caseload is to be adjusted; more caseworker or fewer cases...	Filed
SB 303	Shapleigh/	Application for and	Defines applications for and		Filed

	Wichita Falls	rescission of health benefit plan coverage	cancellation of health benefit coverage		
HB 307	Dutton/Houston	Saturday classes for elementary school students	A district may hold classes on Saturdays during the regular school year for students who fail to perform satisfactorily on the assessment instrument Education Code 39.023 (a) (b) or (1).	Funding is provided. 39.023 (b) applies to special education, so this does apply to those kids.	Filed
HB 316	Raymond/Laredo	Kindergarten, especially for children with disabilities	Modifications to existing Education Code: 1. Parents of children with disabilities between 3 and 5 (was 3 to 6) are to be notified of the availability of special education programs 2. Children are entitled to benefits of Foundation School Program (state education program) if: a. children are in kindergarten or 5-21 b. 21-26 and admitted by school district to compete diploma		Filed
HB 349	Strama/Austin	Relating of placement of public school students with disabilities in juvenile justice alternative programs	Specifies how a student with disabilities can be expelled and also what recourse administrators in juvenile justice alternative programs have if they feel the student's special educational needs cannot be met.		Filed
SB 336	Deuell/Mesquite	Relating to the closing of state schools	Requires HHS to develop criteria for determining when new facilities are needed and when facilities may be expanded, closed, or consolidated. Allows commissioner of HHS to close schools if he/she determines would result in a more efficient use resources.	There's a lot of wiggle room here...	Filed
HB 497	Zerwas/Katy	Relating to studying the impact of abolishing state Medicaid program	Directs HHS to conduct a study on the impact of either abolishing the state Medicaid program or the impact on a severe reduction in Federal matching money.	Not sure what is driving this bill, kind of concerning.	Filed

HB 615	Turner	Relating to the right of an employee who is a parent of a child enrolled in a special education program to time off from work to meet with certain persons affecting the education of the child.	Requires employers to give a parent (up to 10 hrs per year) time off to meet with a teacher, school counselor, or principal.		Filed
HB 541	Raymond/ Laredo	Relating to assessment of public school students receiving special education services.	Basically exempts special education students from state-required assessments.	Pro's and con's here.	Filed
HB 748 (*)	Darby/San Angelo	Relating to the provision of services to certain individuals with developmental disabilities by a state school or state center.	Allows for state schools to contract with individuals to provide services.		Filed
HB 744 (*)	Dukes/ Austin	Relating to the restoration of the medically needy program under the state Medicaid program.	Restores the program, at the same level, that was killed in the 2003 Legislature.		Filed
HB 716 (*)	Riddle/ Houston	Relating to a school choice program for certain students with disabilities	Establishes a school choice program for special education students.	Provides for scholarships in the amount equal to the amount of funding to which the school district would have been entitled.	Filed
HB 647 (*)	Dukes/ Austin	Related to the period of continuous eligibility for the medical assistance program.	Like the other versions of this bill, allows eligibility until the first anniversary of the date on which the child's eligibility was determined (as opposed to the end of the six month period following this date).		Filed