

**House Bill 1792 (Button|Talarico)***Taking Child Care Quality to Scale at the Texas Workforce Commission***WHAT PROBLEM DOES THE BILL FIX?**

The State of Texas spends hundreds of millions of dollars every year to provide child care to the children of working poor parents. Unfortunately, most of the child care paid for with taxpayer money is low quality. Child care providers need a standardized, efficient, and statewide process for participating in the state's only quality improvement program: Texas Rising Star.

WHAT DOES HB 1792 DO?

The federal government provides the Texas Workforce Commission with a block grant to support child care for working parents. Prior to COVID-19, 7,769 child care providers participate in the TWC child care subsidy program. Federal relief funds will bring an additional almost \$5 billion in funding for child care. Texas can use these dollars to make one-time investments to improve long-term quality.

If taxpayers are going to spend money on child care, it should be quality child care. **HB 1792 improves the process by which the Texas Workforce Commission works with providers to get them on the path to quality.** High-quality child care is good for children, especially the low-income children who participate in this program. Working parents, taxpayers, and the public schools will also benefit from HB 1792.

HOW DOES HB 1792 HELP SCHOOL DISTRICTS IMPLEMENT FULL-DAY PRE-K?

- In 2019 the Texas Legislature prioritized Pre-Kindergarten (Pre-K) and now tens of thousands more students attend full-day Pre-K in Texas.
- Schools need facilities to provide that Pre-K. HB 1792 increases the efficiency by which child care providers can become Texas Rising Star certified, in order to be eligible to partner with school districts.
- HB 1792 is a win for children and parents, child care providers, schools, and taxpayers who will not have to pay for bonds to build pre-k facilities.

HOW MUCH WILL THE BILLS COST THE STATE OF TEXAS?

Funding to support this bill is covered by current federal funding. This bill has no Fiscal Note.