SB 1240 (LaMantia)/HB 3111 (Canales)

Relating to requiring the Sunset Advisory Commission to assess the efforts of certain state agencies to reduce disparities in outcomes in the performance of agency functions.



What Is The Sunset Review?

The Sunset Review is a legislative oversight tool used to hold state agencies accountable. Created in 1977 by the Texas Legislature, the Sunset Review ensures that state agencies perform at a high standard via an impartial nonpartisan public forum. This forum evaluates the need for the state agency itself and its effectiveness, efficiency, and responsiveness to the public. The Sunset Review process has a proven track record of improving state laws and has led to major policy changes in nearly every area of state government.

What This Bill Seeks To Address

The Texas Education Agency (TEA) works to ensure children receive a quality education. The Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC)works to improve the health, safety and well-being of Texas families. However, not all Texans are afforded the same opportunities. Therefore, state agencies must work to address disparities in services provided and outcomes. By requiring a Sunset Review to assess TEA and HHSC's efforts to reduce disparities, the bill will ensure that these state agencies will receive support, instruction, and guidance in efforts to reduce disparities.

What Does the Bill Do?

This bill will require that TEA and HHSC 's Sunset Reviews assess agencies' efforts to reduce disparities in outcomes. This requirement does <u>not</u> create a new sector of government but instead utilizes an existing process in the Sunset Review to evaluate how different sectors of state government address disparities in the communities in which they work.