



Modernize and integrate Texas' early childhood technology and data systems

BACKGROUND

Texas' early childhood programs rely on multiple data systems across agencies, making it difficult to share information, identify service gaps, coordinate programs, and evaluate outcomes. [HB 3963](#) established the framework for an Early Childhood Integrated Data System to facilitate secure data sharing across state agencies, inform policymaking, improve coordination, and support better outcomes for children and families. Modernizing technology and data systems builds on this foundation by creating more efficient, connected, and user-centered systems.

This recommendation would simplify and integrate Texas's early childhood systems, reducing administrative burdens for families and providers while improving efficiency, access, and accountability. By expanding the use of integrated technology and data-sharing capabilities envisioned in [HB 3963](#), families and providers could access information, complete applications, and determine eligibility through a more seamless process, while state agencies would be better equipped to identify service gaps, align programs, and support data-driven decision-making.

PROPOSED POLICY RECOMMENDATIONS

Children at Risk proposes that the 90th Texas Legislature modernize and integrate Texas' early childhood technology and data systems by building upon the Early Childhood Integrated Data System established in HB 3963 to improve cross-agency coordination, streamline access for families and providers, reduce administrative burden, and support data-driven decision-making that improves outcomes for children and families:

- **Expand the Early Childhood Integrated Data System (ECIDS)**
 - Build on the framework established under HB 3963 to expand secure, cross-agency data sharing among TWC, HHSC, and DFPS.
 - Use integrated data to identify service gaps, coordinate programs, and evaluate outcomes across the early childhood system.
 - Support data-driven decision-making without creating duplicative reporting systems.
- **Create a More Seamless Experience for Families and Providers**
 - Enable families and providers to access information, complete applications, and determine eligibility through a more unified, user-centered process.
 - Reduce administrative burden by minimizing duplicate data entry and disconnected systems across agencies.
 - Improve agencies' ability to identify service gaps and align programs based on shared data.

FOR QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS, PLEASE CONTACT

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