

New, Renamed, and Abolished State Governmental Entities 81st Legislature

**Regular Session
1st Called Session
2009**



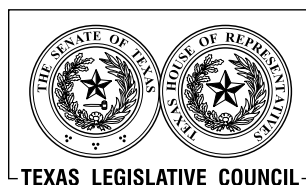
Texas Legislative Council

New, Renamed, and Abolished State Governmental Entities 81st Legislature

**Regular Session
1st Called Session
2009**

Prepared by the Research Division
of the
Texas Legislative Council

Published by the
Texas Legislative Council
P.O. Box 12128
Austin, Texas 78711-2128



Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst, Joint Chair
Speaker Joe Straus, Joint Chair

The mission of the Texas Legislative Council is to provide professional, nonpartisan service and support to the Texas Legislature and legislative agencies. In every area of responsibility, we strive for quality and efficiency.

Copies of this publication have been distributed in compliance with the state depository law (Subchapter G, Chapter 441, Government Code) and are available for public use through the Texas State Publications Depository Program at the Texas State Library and other state depository libraries. An online version of this publication can be found at <http://www.tlc.state.tx.us>.

Additional copies of this publication may be obtained from House Document Distribution:

In person: Room B.324, Robert E. Johnson, Sr., Legislative Office Building
1501 N. Congress Avenue
By mail: P.O. Box 12128, Austin, TX 78711-2128
By phone: (512) 463-1144
By fax: (512) 463-2920
By e-mail: house.documentdistribution@tlc.state.tx.us
By online request form (legislative offices only): <http://billreq/House.aspx>

Table of Contents

Foreword	1
New Entities	3
Adoption Review Committee.....	3
Aging, Legislative Committee on	3
Autism Spectrum Disorders Resource Center.....	4
Bioenergy Policy Council, Texas.....	5
Bioenergy Research Committee, Texas.....	6
Campus Distinction Designation Criteria Committee(s).....	7
Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas Ad Hoc Advisory Committee(s).....	8
Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas University Advisory Committee	8
Capital Writs Committee	9
Capital Writs, Office of.....	9
Child Abuse and Neglect, Task Force to Reduce.....	10
Child Prostitution, Committee to Study Juvenile Justice System Alternatives for.....	11
Children and Families, Council on	11
Children with Special Needs, Interagency Task Force for.....	13
Communications Coordination Group	15
Comptroller’s Property Value Study Advisory Committee	16
Controlled Substances Transition Plan, Interagency Council on	16
Coordinated Strategic Planning Committee	17
Criminal Commitments of Individuals with Mental Retardation, Interim Select Committee on.....	18
Department of Motor Vehicles, Board of the Texas.....	19
Department of Motor Vehicles, Texas.....	19
Department of Motor Vehicles Transition Team	20
Driver Education Courses, Task Force on.....	20
Dyslexia Practitioners and Therapists, Advisory Committee on.....	21
Dyslexia and Related Disorders, Interim Committee to Study	21
Early Childhood Health and Nutrition Interagency Council.....	22
Economic Growth and Endangered Species, Interagency Task Force on	23
Educational Opportunity for Military Children, Interstate Commission on.....	24
Educational Opportunity for Military Children, State Council to Coordinate Participation in and Compliance with the Interstate Compact on	25
Electronic Health Information Exchange System Advisory Committee	26
Emergency Services Retirement System Medical Board, Texas.....	27
Faith- and Community-Based Initiatives, Interagency Coordinating Group for	27
Farm-to-School Coordination Task Force, Interagency	28
Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Advisory Committee(s).....	29
Health and Behavioral Health Services, Workgroup on Integration of	30
Health Care Translators and Interpreters, Advisory Committee on Qualifications for	31

Healthy Food Advisory Committee	32
Holocaust and Genocide Commission, Texas	33
Housing and Health Services Coordination Council.....	34
Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force	35
Insurance-Funded Prepaid Funeral Benefits, Advisory Committee on the Regulation of	37
Invasive Species Coordinating Committee, Texas	38
Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program Advisory Board.....	39
Literacy Council, Interagency.....	40
Media Production Advisory Committee.....	41
Natural Disaster Housing Reconstruction Advisory Committee	41
Newborn Screening Advisory Committee.....	42
Newborn Screening, House Interim Committee to Study	42
Nonprofit Capacity, Task Force on Strengthening	43
Nursery and Floral Advisory Council, Texas	44
Nursing Educational Programs, Committee to Select Independent Researcher to Study.....	44
Offender Reentry Task Force	45
Physician Health and Rehabilitation Advisory Committee	45
Physician Health Program Governing Board, Texas	46
Pollution Control Property Advisory Committee.....	46
Polygraph Advisory Committee.....	46
Public Corruption Unit	47
Public School Finance Weights, Allotments, and Adjustments, Select Committee on.....	48
Recreational Boating Safety, Advisory Panel on	48
Renewing Our Communities Account Advisory Committee.....	49
Southern High-Speed Rail Commission	49
State Supported Living Centers, Office of Independent Ombudsman for.....	50
Tax Professional Advisory Committee, Texas.....	52
Technology Research Data Collection, Select Interim Committee to Study	52
Texas-Israel Exchange Advisory Committee	53
Texas Medical Child Abuse Resources and Education System (MEDCARES) Advisory Committee.....	53
Timothy Cole Advisory Panel on Wrongful Convictions.....	54
Title IV-D Child Health Care Program, Advisory Committee on the	55
Uniform County Subdivision Regulation, Task Force on	55
Used Automotive Parts Recycling Advisory Board	56
Volunteer Advocate Program Advisory Committee	57
Volunteer-Supported Decision-Making Advocate Pilot Program Work Group	58
Windstorm Insurance Legislative Oversight Board	58
Wine Industry Development and Marketing Advisory Committee	59

Renamed Entities	61
Crime Stoppers Council, Texas.....	61
Department of Rural Affairs, Texas	61
Health Care-Associated Infections and Preventable Adverse Events, Advisory Panel on	63
Mortgage Industry Advisory Committee.....	64
Private Security Board, Texas.....	65
Towing, Storage, and Booting Advisory Board	65
 Abolished Entities	 67
Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas Scientific Research and Prevention Programs Committee	67
Disaster Emergency Funding Board	67
Environmental Education Partnership Fund Board, Texas.....	67
Incentive and Productivity Commission, Texas	67
Local Government Records Committee	67
Polygraph Examiners Board	68
Private Sector Prison Industries Oversight Authority	68
Property Tax Appraisal Studies, Technical Advisory Committee on.....	68
State Agency Software Portfolio Management Training, Interagency Panel on	68
State Community Development Review Committee.....	69
Tax Professional Examiners, Board of.....	69
Telecommunications Planning and Oversight Council	69
Texas-Israel Exchange Fund Board	69
Transportation Financing, Study Commission on	69
Windstorm Building Code Advisory Committee	70
Wine Industry Development Advisory Committee	70
Wine Marketing Assistance Program Advisory Committee, Texas.....	70

Foreword

Between 1997 and 2003, the Texas Legislative Council publication *Summary of Enactments* included a table to indicate statutory state agencies, interagency panels, advisory committees, and other state governmental entities that were created, restructured, or eliminated by the legislature. *New, Renamed, and Abolished State Governmental Entities* replaced the table in 2005 with an expanded format that provides more information about the affected entities. This publication addresses entities that were created, renamed, or abolished by the 81st Legislature during the Regular Session and the 1st Called Session.

The New Entities section provides information on each new entity that was created. Some of these new entities are tied to the abolishment of another entity but are not considered a renaming or replacement of that entity because they have different functions and composition. An example is the Polygraph Advisory Committee, which was created as part of the abolishment of the Polygraph Examiners Board and the transfer of its regulatory functions to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation. The Polygraph Examiners Board is included in the section for abolished entities with a reference to the new entity.

The Renamed Entities section provides information on each entity whose name was changed and indicates whether the entity retained the same functions and composition.

The Abolished Entities section provides information on each entity that was abolished or that was discontinued because the statute creating it was repealed. If functions of the entity were transferred substantially unchanged to an already existing entity, that is noted. If functions were substantially revised and assigned to a new entity described in the New Entities section, that is noted.

For each entity included in the publication, the following information is provided:

Name—The name of the entity in the legislation. If the entity advises or is administratively attached to an agency, or if an agency appoints members or provides staff support to the entity, that agency's name appears in parentheses. For an entity that has been renamed, the previous name is also indicated. For an abolished entity, if its functions are transferred, the entity that assumes those functions is also named.

Legislation—The bill and specific bill sections that contain provisions creating, renaming, or abolishing the entity and that contain other information, such as functions and composition. In some cases the entire bill is about the entity. The date the provisions for the creation, renaming, or abolishment of the entity become effective is provided. If creation of the entity is authorized instead of mandated, that is noted.

Functions—Powers and duties of the entity. For entities that have been renamed, if the functions have been revised, revision details are included. Information about the transfer of functions to another entity is included if applicable.

Composition—Membership information for the entity, including the number of members, appointment criteria, and terms of office. If the composition of a renamed entity has been changed, revision details are provided. The composition of the entity under both the previous name and the new name is included when needed for clarity.

Expiration Date—The sunset date or other expiration date included in the legislation or in the entity's statutory authorization. If the entry is "None," it means that the entity has no express statutory date to expire.

New Entities

Adoption Review Committee (Department of Family and Protective Services)

Legislation: House Bill 2225, Section 1; provision for creation is effective June 19, 2009

Function: Conducts an extensive review of the foster care system, in conjunction with the Department of Family and Protective Services, to:

- Identify obstacles that impede the department's ability to find a permanent placement for foster children, including placement by adoption
- Develop ways to improve the foster care system by reducing the time a child is in the conservatorship of the department before being permanently placed, reducing the number of children in the conservatorship of the department who are placed outside of their home county, and enhancing the procedures for adopting foster children

Composition (9 members total):

- 4 members appointed by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission as follows:
 - 1 employee of the Department of Family and Protective Services
 - 1 representative from a licensed child-placing agency that provides adoption services
 - 1 representative from the Council on Adoptable Children of Texas
 - 1 attorney with expertise in handling adoptions
- 5 members with expertise in or a demonstrated commitment to adoption issues appointed by the governor

Expiration date: September 1, 2011

Aging, Legislative Committee on

Legislation: House Bill 610, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Studies issues relating to the aging population of Texas, including issues related to the health care, income, transportation, housing, education, and employment needs of that population
- Makes recommendations to address aging issues
- Conducts a continuing study of issues relating to the aging population, including issues that are affected by the demographic and geographic diversity of the population
- Analyzes the availability of, and unmet needs for, state and local services for the aging population

- Requests reports and other information relating to the aging population as necessary from the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission, the Department of Aging and Disability Services, other health and human services agencies, the attorney general, and any other state agency
- Reports to the standing committees of the senate and the house of representatives having jurisdiction of issues related to the needs of the aging population not later than November 15 of each even-numbered year, including a summary of the hearings and studies conducted by the committee during the preceding year, a statement of findings based on the hearings and studies conducted by the committee, and recommendations, if any, for legislation

Composition (6 members total):

- 2 state senators appointed by the lieutenant governor
- 2 state representatives appointed by the speaker of the house
- 2 public members appointed by the governor

The presiding officer serves a two-year term expiring February 1 of each odd-numbered year.

Expiration date: None

Autism Spectrum Disorders Resource Center (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: House Bill 1574, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Coordinates resources for individuals with autism and other pervasive developmental disorders and their families
- Collects and distributes information and research regarding autism and other pervasive developmental disorders
- Conducts training and development activities for persons who may interact with an individual with autism or another pervasive developmental disorder in the course of their employment, including school, medical, or law enforcement personnel
- Coordinates with local entities that provide services to individuals with autism or other pervasive developmental disorders
- Provides support for families affected by autism and other pervasive developmental disorders

Composition: Unspecified

Expiration date: None

Bioenergy Policy Council, Texas (Texas Department of Agriculture)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1016, Section 4.03; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Provides a vision for unifying Texas' agricultural, energy, and research strengths in a successful launch of a cellulosic biofuel and bioenergy industry
- Fosters development of cellulosic-based and bio-based fuels and builds on the Texas emerging technology fund's investments in leading-edge energy research and efforts to commercialize the production of bioenergy
- Pursues the creation of a next-generation biofuels energy research program at a Texas university
- Works to procure federal and other funding to aid Texas in becoming a bioenergy leader
- Studies the feasibility and economic development effect of a blending requirement for biodiesel or cellulosic fuels
- Pursues the development and use of thermochemical process technologies to produce alternative chemical feedstocks
- Studies the feasibility and economic development of the requirements for pipeline-quality, renewable natural gas
- Performs other advisory duties as requested by the commissioner of agriculture regarding the responsible development of bioenergy resources in Texas

Composition (18 members total):

- The commissioner of agriculture, who serves as chair of the policy council
- 1 representative of the Railroad Commission of Texas designated by the commission
- 1 representative of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality designated by the commission
- 1 representative of the Public Utility Commission of Texas designated by the commission
- 1 representative of the Texas Water Development Board designated by the board
- The chancellor of The Texas A&M University System, or the chancellor's designee
- The chancellor of the Texas Tech University System, or the chancellor's designee
- The chancellor of The University of Texas System, or the chancellor's designee
- 1 state senator appointed by the lieutenant governor
- 1 state representative appointed by the speaker of the house
- 8 members appointed by the governor, with each of the following industries or groups represented by 1 member:

- Research and development of feedstock and feedstock production
- Retail distribution of energy
- Transportation of biomass feedstock
- Agricultural production for bioenergy production or agricultural waste used for production of bioenergy
- Production of biodiesel from nonfood feedstocks
- Production of ethanol from nonfood feedstocks
- Bio-based electricity generation
- Chemical manufacturing

Members appointed by the governor serve two-year staggered terms, with terms of either three or four members expiring on January 1 of each year.

Expiration date: None

Bioenergy Research Committee, Texas (Texas Department of Agriculture)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1016, Section 4.03; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Identifies and researches appropriate and desirable biomass feedstock for each geographic region of Texas
- Investigates logistical challenges to the planting, harvesting, and transporting of large volumes of biomass and provides recommendations to the Texas Bioenergy Policy Council that will aid in overcoming barriers to the transportation, distribution, and marketing of bioenergy
- Identifies strategies for and obstacles to the potential transition of the agriculture industry in western regions of Texas to dryland bioenergy crops that are not dependent on groundwater resources
- Explores regions of Texas, including coastal areas, that may contain available marginal land for use in growing bioenergy feedstocks
- Studies the potential for producing oil from algae
- Studies the potential for the advancement of thermochemical process technologies to produce alternative chemical feedstocks
- Studies the potential for producing pipeline-quality natural gas from renewable sources
- Performs other research duties as requested by the commissioner of agriculture relating to the responsible development of bioenergy resources in Texas

Composition (16 members total):

- The commissioner of agriculture or the commissioner's designee, who serves as the chair of the research committee
- 1 representative of the Railroad Commission of Texas designated by the commission
- 1 representative of the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality designated by the commission
- 1 representative of the Public Utility Commission of Texas designated by the commission
- 1 representative of the Texas Water Development Board designated by the board
- 1 researcher or specialist in the bioenergy field from each of the following university systems, appointed by the chancellor of the system:
 - The Texas A&M University System
 - The Texas Tech University System
 - The University of Texas System
- 8 members, each of whom is appointed by a governor-appointed member of the Texas Bioenergy Policy Council

Members appointed by the gubernatorial appointees on the policy council serve two-year staggered terms, with the terms of either three or four members expiring on January 1 of each year.

Expiration date: None

Campus Distinction Designation Criteria Committee(s) (Texas Education Agency)

Legislation: House Bill 3, Section 59; provision for creation is effective June 19, 2009

Functions: Each committee:

- Develops criteria for a distinction designation awarded to a campus for achievement in one of the following programs or specific categories of performance:
 - Academic achievement in English language arts, mathematics, science, or social studies
 - Fine arts
 - Physical education
 - 21st Century Workforce Development program
 - Second language acquisition program
- Identifies a variety of indicators for measuring excellence
- Considers categories for distinction designations, with criteria relevant to each category, based on the level of a program and the student enrollment of a campus

Composition (unspecified number of members): Each committee must include the following:

- Individuals who practice as professionals in the content area relevant to the distinction designation, as applicable
- Individuals with subject matter expertise in the content area relevant to the distinction designation
- Educators with subject matter expertise in the content area relevant to the distinction designation
- Community leaders, including leaders from the business community

For each committee, the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house may each appoint one person from each category described above.

Expiration date: None

Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas Ad Hoc Advisory Committee(s)

Legislation: House Bill 1358, Section 9; provision for creation is effective June 19, 2009

Function: Addresses childhood cancers and advises the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas Oversight Committee on issues relating to cancer as necessary

Composition (unspecified number of members): Ad hoc committee members serve for a period determined by the oversight committee

Expiration date: None

Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas University Advisory Committee

Legislation: House Bill 1358, Section 9; provision for creation is effective June 19, 2009

Function: Advises the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas Oversight Committee and a research and prevention programs committee regarding the role of institutions of higher education in cancer research

Composition (at least 10 members):

- 2 members appointed by the chancellor of The University of Texas System to represent The University of Texas Southwestern Medical Center at Dallas, The University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston, The University of Texas Health Science Center at Houston, The University of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio, The University of Texas Health Center at Tyler, or The University of Texas M. D. Anderson Cancer Center
- 1 member appointed by the chancellor of The Texas A&M University System to represent The Texas A&M University System Health Science Center or the teaching hospital for The Texas A&M Health Science Center College of Medicine
- 1 member appointed by the chancellor of the Texas Tech University System to represent the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center

- 1 member appointed by the chancellor of the University of Houston System to represent the system
- 1 member appointed by the chancellor of the Texas State University System to represent the system
- 1 member appointed by the chancellor of the University of North Texas System to represent the system
- 1 member appointed by the president of the Baylor College of Medicine
- 1 member appointed by the president of Rice University
- Members appointed at the discretion of the executive director of the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas by the chancellors of other institutions

Expiration date: None

Capital Writs Committee (Court of Criminal Appeals)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1091, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Submits to the court of criminal appeals a list of the names of not more than five persons for the court's consideration in appointing the director of the office of capital writs when a vacancy exists for that position. If the committee finds that three or more persons under the committee's consideration are qualified to serve as the director of the office of capital writs, the committee must include at least three names in the list.

Composition (5 members total):

- 3 attorneys who are members of the State Bar of Texas and who are not employed as prosecutors or law enforcement officials, all of whom must have criminal defense experience with death penalty proceedings in Texas
- 2 state district judges, one of whom serves as presiding judge of an administrative judicial region

Members are appointed by the president of the State Bar of Texas, with ratification by the executive committee of the State Bar of Texas.

Expiration date: None

Capital Writs, Office of (Court of Criminal Appeals)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1091, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Represents, on appointment by the convicting court, an indigent defendant in a capital case who desires appointment of counsel for the purpose of certain habeas corpus actions or proceedings; the office may independently investigate the financial condition of any person the office is appointed to represent and must report the results of the investigation to the appointing judge.

Composition (unspecified number of members): The court of criminal appeals, using recommendations from the capital writs committee, shall appoint a director to direct and supervise the operation of the office. The director serves a four-year term and shall employ qualified attorneys and employ or retain licensed investigators and other personnel necessary to perform the duties of the office.

Expiration date: None

Child Abuse and Neglect, Task Force to Reduce

Legislation:

- House Bill 1041, Section 3; provision for creation is effective June 19, 2009
- Senate Bill 2080, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Establishes a strategy for reducing child abuse and neglect and for improving child welfare in Texas
- Gathers information concerning child safety, child abuse and neglect, and child welfare throughout Texas
- Reviews the exemptions from criminal liability provided under the Penal Code to a mother who injures her unborn child by using a controlled substance during her pregnancy and examines the effects that repealing the exemptions will have on reducing the number of babies who are born addicted to a controlled substance
- Receives reports and testimony from individuals, state and local agencies, community-based organizations, and other public and private organizations
- Creates goals for state policy that would improve child safety, prevent child abuse and neglect, and improve child welfare
- Submits a strategic plan to accomplish such goals, which may include proposals for specific statutory changes, the creation of new programs, and methods to foster cooperation among state agencies and between the state and local government, to the governor, lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house not later than November 1, 2010
- Consults with employees of the Department of Family and Protective Services, the Department of State Health Services, and the Texas Department of Criminal Justice as necessary to accomplish the task force's responsibilities

Composition (9 members total):

- 5 members appointed by the governor
- 2 members appointed by the lieutenant governor
- 2 members appointed by the speaker of the house

Members must be individuals who are actively involved in the fields of the prevention of child abuse and neglect and child welfare. The appointments must reflect the geographic diversity of Texas.

Expiration date: September 1, 2011

Child Prostitution, Committee to Study Juvenile Justice System Alternatives for (Texas Juvenile Probation Commission)

Legislation: House Bill 4009, Section 4; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Evaluates alternatives to the juvenile justice system, such as government programs, faith-based programs, and programs operated by nonprofit organizations, for children who are accused of engaging in acts of prostitution
- Prepares and delivers to each member of the legislature not later than January 1, 2011, a report that includes the results of the study and recommendations for alternatives to the juvenile justice system for children who are accused of engaging in acts of prostitution

Composition (unspecified number of members): The executive director of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission shall determine the size of the committee, which must be composed of:

- Members of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission, the Texas Youth Commission, and other relevant state agencies as determined by the executive director
- Members of the legislature
- Members of nongovernmental organizations that provide programs and services to combat and prevent trafficking of persons in Texas, including the following with respect to that trafficking:
 - Programs to promote public awareness
 - Programs to identify and provide services to victims
 - Legal services
 - Community outreach and training programs
- Other juvenile justice experts

Expiration date: June 1, 2011

Children and Families, Council on (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1646, Section 1; provision for creation is effective June 19, 2009

Functions:

- Coordinates the state's health, education, and human services systems to ensure that children and families have access to needed services
- Improves coordination and efficiency in state agencies, advisory councils on issues affecting children, and local levels of service

- Prioritizes and mobilizes resources for children
- Facilitates an integrated approach to providing services for children and youth
- Promotes a common vision of desired outcomes for children and youth and of family and community supports
- Promotes shared accountability for outcomes for children and youth
- Aligns allocations of resources with policies for children and youth
- Analyzes the council's biennial legislative appropriations requests for services provided to children and their families and identifies appropriations that, through the coordination of council members, could be modified in the next legislative appropriation request to eliminate waste or increase available services and, not later than May 1 of each even-numbered year, prepares a report recommending those modifications for consideration during the development of the next biennial legislative appropriations request
- Investigates opportunities to increase flexible funding for health, education, and human services provided to children and their families
- Identifies methods to remove barriers to local coordination of health, education, and human services provided to children and their families
- Identifies methods to ensure that children and youth receive appropriate assessment, diagnoses, and intervention services
- Develops methods to prevent unnecessary parental relinquishment of custody of children
- Prioritizes assisting children in family settings rather than institutional settings
- Makes recommendations about family involvement in the provision and planning of health, education, and human services for a child, including family partner and liaison models
- Before implementing a method, process, or policy:
 - Identifies the timeline and proposed outcome of that implementation and identifies benchmarks that may be used to measure the success of the implementation
 - Assigns to the appropriate council members responsibility for implementing the method, process, policy, or recommendation
- Submits a report not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house, and members of the legislature that contains:
 - The council's requests, plans, and recommendations, including recommendations of any legislation that is needed to further develop and maintain a statewide system of quality health, education, and human services for children and families
 - Information regarding the implementation by council members of any method, process, policy, or recommendation, including information regarding whether the implementation has proceeded in accordance with the timeline, outcome, and benchmarks identified by the council

Composition (14 members total):

- The executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission
- The commissioner of state health services
- The commissioner of the Department of Family and Protective Services
- The commissioner of aging and disability services
- The commissioner of assistive and rehabilitative services
- The commissioner of education
- The executive director of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission
- The executive commissioner of the Texas Youth Commission
- The executive director of the Texas Workforce Commission
- The director of the Texas Correctional Office on Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments
- 2 public representatives who are parents of children who have received services from an agency represented on the council, appointed by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission
- 2 representatives who are young adults or adolescents who have received services from an agency represented on the council, appointed by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission

Expiration date: September 1, 2019, unless continued by the legislature under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act)

Children with Special Needs, Interagency Task Force for (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation:

- House Bill 2196, Section 2; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009
- Senate Bill 1824, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Coordinates with federal agencies to compile a list of opportunities to increase flexible funding for services for children with special needs, including alternative funding sources and service delivery options, not later than September 1, 2010
- Conducts a review of state agency policies and procedures related to service delivery for children with special needs
- Performs a needs assessment, including public hearings to identify service delivery gaps, system entry points, and service obstacles
- Develops a five-year plan to improve the coordination, quality, and efficiency of services for children with special needs

- Submits a biennial report on the progress of each agency represented on the task force in accomplishing the goals of the task force to the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house and publishes the report on the Health and Human Services Commission's website

Composition (18 members total):

- The commissioner, the executive director or director, or a deputy or assistant commissioner of each of the following agencies:
 - The Health and Human Services Commission, designated by the executive commissioner
 - The Department of Aging and Disability Services, designated by the commissioner of that agency
 - The Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, designated by the commissioner of that agency
 - The division of early childhood intervention services, designated by the commissioner of the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services
 - The Department of Family and Protective Services, designated by the commissioner of that agency
 - The Department of State Health Services, designated by the commissioner of that agency
 - The Texas Education Agency, designated by the commissioner of that agency
 - The Texas Youth Commission, designated by the executive commissioner of that agency
 - The Texas Juvenile Probation Commission, designated by the executive director of that agency
 - The Texas Correctional Office on Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments, designated by the director of that office
- 8 nonvoting members, including:
 - 1 representative of a local mental health authority or a local mental retardation authority, appointed by the governor
 - 2 state representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house
 - 2 state senators, appointed by the lieutenant governor
 - 3 parents or consumer advocates, one each appointed by the Health and Human Services Commission, the Texas Education Agency, and the Texas Youth Commission, who may serve five-year terms or elect to serve for a shorter period

Expiration date: September 1, 2015, unless continued by the legislature under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act)

Communications Coordination Group (Texas Division of Emergency Management)

Legislation: House Bill 1831, Section 1.10; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Facilitates interagency coordination and collaboration to provide efficient and effective planning and execution of communications support to joint, interagency, and intergovernmental task forces
- Assists with coordination and collaboration during an emergency, at the direction of the Texas Division of Emergency Management

Composition (unspecified number of members): The group consists of members selected by the Texas Division of Emergency Management, including representatives of the following entities:

- Texas military forces
- The Department of Public Safety of the State of Texas
- The Federal Emergency Management Agency
- Federal agencies that comprise Emergency Support Function No. 2
- The telecommunications industry, including cable service providers
- Electric utilities
- Gas utilities
- The National Guard's Joint Continental United States Communications Support Environment
- The National Guard Bureau
- Amateur radio operator groups
- The Texas Forest Service
- The Texas Department of Transportation
- The General Land Office
- The Texas Engineering Extension Service of The Texas A&M University System
- The Public Utility Commission of Texas
- The Railroad Commission of Texas
- The Department of State Health Services
- The judicial branch of state government
- The Texas Association of Regional Councils
- The United States Air Force Auxiliary Civil Air Patrol, Texas Wing

- Each trauma service area regional advisory council
- State agencies, counties, and municipalities affected by an emergency, including 9-1-1 agencies
- Other agencies as determined by the Texas Division of Emergency Management

Expiration date: None

Comptroller's Property Value Study Advisory Committee

Legislation: House Bill 8, Section 2; provision for creation is effective January 1, 2010

Function: Consults with the comptroller of public accounts before the adoption of rules governing the conduct of school district property value studies

Composition (9 members total):

- 1 state representative, appointed by the speaker of the house
- 1 state senator, appointed by the lieutenant governor
- 2 members who represent appraisal districts, appointed by the comptroller of public accounts
- 2 members who represent school districts, appointed by the comptroller of public accounts
- 3 members who are residents of Texas and are school district taxpayers or have expertise in school district taxation or ratio studies, appointed by the comptroller of public accounts

Expiration date: None

Controlled Substances Transition Plan, Interagency Council on

Legislation: House Bill 2730, Section 22.01; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Develops a transition plan for the orderly transfer from the Department of Public Safety to the Texas State Board of Pharmacy of certain records and regulatory functions relating to dispensing controlled substances by prescription under the Texas Controlled Substances Act. In doing so, the council:

- Consults with the Health and Human Services Commission, the Department of State Health Services, and other health and human services agencies that contract with a third party for data collection
- Specifies the records and regulatory functions to be transferred
- Creates a time frame within which the specified records and functions will be transferred
- Ensures the Department of Public Safety's continued access for law enforcement purposes to prescription drug information obtained under the Texas Controlled Substances Act

- Develops a plan for the transfer of relevant database information
- Makes recommendations for improvements to data transmission, including examining the feasibility of implementing an electronic data transmission system for use by registrants and the Department of Public Safety or the Texas State Board of Pharmacy
- Estimates the fiscal impact of the transfer, including an estimate of the costs associated with any necessary staff increase
- Minimizes disruptions to the professions affected by the transfer
- Identifies any obstacles to the transfer and makes recommendations to address those obstacles
- Addresses any other consideration the council determines is appropriate
- Submits recommendations on the transition plan to the legislature not later than January 1, 2011

Composition (3 members total):

- The director of the Department of Public Safety or the director's designee
- The executive director of the Texas State Board of Pharmacy or the executive director's designee
- The executive director of the Texas Medical Board or the executive director's designee

Expiration date: September 1, 2011

Coordinated Strategic Planning Committee (Texas Juvenile Probation Commission)

Legislation: House Bill 3689, Section 3.009; provision for creation is effective June 19, 2009

Function: Biennially develops a coordinated strategic plan to guide, but not substitute for, the strategic plans developed individually by the Texas Youth Commission and the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission

Composition (8 members total):

- 4 members appointed by the executive director of the Texas Juvenile Probation Commission, including at least:
 - 1 member who represents the interests of families of juvenile offenders
 - 1 member who represents the interests of local juvenile probation departments
 - 1 member who is a mental health treatment professional licensed as a physician or a psychologist or counselor
- 4 members appointed by the executive director of the Texas Youth Commission, including at least:
 - 1 member who represents the interests of juvenile offenders

- 1 member who represents the interests of the victims of delinquent or criminal conduct
- 1 member who is an educator as defined by state law

Expiration date: None

Criminal Commitments of Individuals with Mental Retardation, Interim Select Committee on

Legislation: Senate Bill 643, Section 43; provision for creation is effective June 11, 2009

Functions:

- Conducts a study of the criminal commitment process for individuals with mental retardation who are found incompetent to stand trial or are acquitted by reason of insanity, including an analysis of:
 - The advantages and disadvantages of the existing system for criminal commitments of individuals with mental retardation or individuals with a dual diagnosis of mental illness and mental retardation who are found incompetent to stand trial or are acquitted by reason of insanity
 - The number of individuals with mental retardation who are criminally committed each year and the number of individuals with mental retardation who are found to be violent or dangerous through the criminal commitment process
 - Whether the criminal commitment process should be modified to provide for the commitment of certain individuals with mental retardation who are found to be violent or dangerous to a mental retardation facility instead of to a mental health facility
 - The costs associated with modifying the criminal commitment process
- Reports the committee's findings and recommendations resulting from the study not later than December 1, 2010, to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house, and members of the legislature

Composition (6 members total):

- The chairs of the following standing committees of the house of representatives:
 - Criminal Jurisprudence
 - Human Services
 - Public Health
- The chairs of the following standing committees of the senate:
 - Criminal Justice
 - Health and Human Services
 - State Affairs

Expiration date: None stated, but the interim nature of the charge implies the committee's termination on submission of its report

Department of Motor Vehicles, Board of the Texas

Legislation: House Bill 3097, Section 1.01; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Organizes the department into divisions, including divisions for administration, motor carriers, the motor vehicle board, and vehicle titles and registration
- Considers ways in which the department's operations may be improved and periodically reports to the legislature concerning potential statutory changes that would improve the department's operation
- Establishes advisory committees for the motor carrier, motor vehicles, and vehicle titles and registration divisions to make recommendations to the board or to the department's executive director on the operation of the applicable division

Composition (9 members total):

- 3 members who hold a state-issued dealer's license for the sale or lease of motor vehicles, of whom two must be franchised dealers of different classes and one must be an independent dealer
- 1 representative of a manufacturer or distributor that holds a state-issued license for the sale or lease of motor vehicles
- 1 tax assessor-collector
- 1 representative of a law enforcement agency of a county or municipality
- 1 representative of the motor carrier industry
- 2 public members

All members are appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. Members serve staggered six-year terms, with the terms of either one or two members expiring February 1 of each odd-numbered year.

Expiration date: September 1, 2015, unless continued by the legislature under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act)

Department of Motor Vehicles, Texas

Legislation: House Bill 3097, Section 1.01; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Administers and enforces state law relating to:

- Certificates of title and registration of vehicles
- Identifying marks on commercial motor vehicles
- Motor carrier registration
- Single state registration
- Motor transportation brokers

- Foreign commercial motor transportation
- Sale or lease of motor vehicles
- Salvage vehicle dealers

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- An executive director appointed by the board of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles
- Other employees required to efficiently implement provisions relating to the Department of Motor Vehicles, other applicable vehicle laws of Texas, and other laws that grant jurisdiction to or are applicable to the department

Expiration date: September 1, 2015, unless continued by the legislature under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act)

Department of Motor Vehicles Transition Team

Legislation: House Bill 3097, Section 9.01; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Plans for and makes recommendations regarding the transfer of obligations, property, full-time equivalent positions, rights, powers, and duties from the Texas Department of Transportation to the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles
- Reports on and makes recommendations to the board of the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles, the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house, and the presiding officers of the senate and house committees with jurisdiction over transportation regarding the transfer not later than October 1, 2009

Composition (unspecified number of members): The transition team must include the following members:

- The division director from the Motor Vehicles Division
- The division director from the Vehicle Titles and Registration Division
- The division director from the Motor Carrier Division
- The assistant executive director for Support Operations

Expiration date: None stated, but the nature of the charge implies the team's termination on submission of its report

Driver Education Courses, Task Force on (Department of Public Safety)

Legislation:

- House Bill 339, Section 20; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009
- House Bill 2730, Section 12.13; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Reviews and makes recommendations regarding the effectiveness of the materials provided by the Texas Education Agency for use in licensed or authorized driver education courses

Composition (unspecified number of members): The Texas Department of Public Safety is required to appoint the task force, which must consist of the following members:

- 1 representative of the Department of Public Safety
- 1 representative of the Texas Education Agency
- 1 commercial provider of driver education courses
- 1 member of an interested group or association, as determined by the department
- Other appropriate members, as determined by the department

Expiration date: None

Dyslexia Practitioners and Therapists, Advisory Committee on (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: House Bill 461, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Advises the Department of State Health Services in administering the regulation and licensing of dyslexia practitioners and dyslexia therapists

Composition: Unspecified number of members appointed by the department

Expiration date: None

Dyslexia and Related Disorders, Interim Committee to Study

Legislation: House Bill 461, Section 3; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Studies and recommends legislation to increase awareness of early detection and treatment of dyslexia and related disorders, including an examination of:
 - Access to treatment in rural areas of Texas
 - The role of public education and higher education in detection and treatment
 - Treatment for older students and adults
 - Any barriers related to accommodations for individuals with dyslexia and related disorders
- Reports findings and recommendations to the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house, and the governor not later than December 1, 2010

Composition (9 members total):

- 2 state senators, one of whom represents a rural area, appointed by the lieutenant governor

- 2 state representatives, one of whom represents a rural area, appointed by the speaker of the house
- 5 members appointed by the governor as follows:
 - 1 representative of an institution of higher education that offers courses in dyslexia and related disorders
 - 1 representative of a nationally accredited training center
 - 1 certified academic language therapist
 - 1 public school dyslexia designee
 - 1 parent of a student with dyslexia

Expiration date: September 1, 2011

Early Childhood Health and Nutrition Interagency Council (Texas Department of Agriculture)

Legislation: Senate Bill 395, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Reviews current research to assess the health of children under the age of six in Texas compared to the health of similar children in other states, the significance of nutrition and physical activity in the development of children under the age of six, and the existence of nutrition and physical activity requirements and practices in early childhood care settings
- Reviews the status of the programs administered by each agency represented on the council that promote healthy nutrition and physical activity in early childhood care settings
- Identifies existing state and federal funding sources available for the promotion of health and nutrition in early childhood care settings
- Consults with key stakeholders to identify barriers to improving nutrition and physical activity standards in early childhood care settings and to identify evidence-based best practices for improving early childhood health through nutrition and physical activity
- Develops an early childhood nutrition and physical activity plan with a recommended timeline for implementation over a six-year period and submits a written early childhood nutrition and physical activity plan not later than November 1, 2010, to the legislature and the governor
- Submits to both houses of the legislature and the governor on or before November 1 of each even-numbered year a written report on the actions taken in furtherance of the six-year plan, the areas that need improvement in implementing the six-year plan, any change to the six-year plan, and the programs and practices that address nutrition and physical activity in early childhood settings in Texas

Composition (8 members total):

- 1 representative of the Health and Human Services Commission who is involved in the coordination of children’s programs, appointed by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission

- 1 representative of the Department of State Health Services' health promotion and chronic disease prevention programs, appointed by the commissioner of state health services
- 1 representative of the Department of State Health Services' Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children, appointed by the commissioner of state health services
- 1 representative of the Texas Workforce Commission, appointed by the executive director of the Texas Workforce Commission
- 1 representative of the Texas Department of Agriculture, appointed by the commissioner of agriculture
- 1 representative of the Texas Education Agency's school health programs, appointed by the commissioner of education
- 1 representative of the Department of Family and Protective Services' Child Care Licensing Division, appointed by the commissioner of the Department of Family and Protective Services
- 1 representative of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service, appointed by the director of the Texas AgriLife Extension Service

Members of the council serve two-year terms, with the terms expiring February 1 of each odd-numbered year.

Expiration date: September 1, 2019, unless continued by the legislature under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act)

Economic Growth and Endangered Species, Interagency Task Force on

Legislation: Senate Bill 2534, Section 1; provision for creation is effective June 19, 2009

Functions:

- Assesses the economic impact on the state of federal, state, or local regulations relating to endangered species
- Assists landowners and other persons in Texas to identify, evaluate, and implement cost-efficient strategies for mitigation of impacts to and recovery of endangered species that will promote economic growth and development in Texas
- Facilitates state and local governmental efforts to effectively implement endangered species regulations in a cost-efficient manner
- Reviews, if requested by a local government or a state official, state and local governmental efforts to address endangered species issues and provides recommendations to make those efforts more cost-effective, considering all available options as part of its recommendations
- Provides reports as needed on innovative programs to address endangered species issues while promoting economic growth, task force activities, and recommendations for future programs or legislation

Composition (at least 5 members):

- The comptroller of public accounts
- The commissioner of agriculture
- The executive director of the Parks and Wildlife Department
- The executive director of the Texas Department of Transportation
- The executive director of the State Soil and Water Conservation Board

New members may be added to the task force by the unanimous consent of the existing members.

Expiration date: None

Educational Opportunity for Military Children, Interstate Commission on

Legislation: Senate Bill 90, Section 1; provision for creation is effective May 5, 2009

Functions:

- Provides for dispute resolution among member states
- Promulgates rules and takes all necessary actions to effect the goals, purposes, and obligations as enumerated in the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children
- Issues, upon member state request, advisory opinions concerning the meaning or interpretation of the interstate compact, its bylaws, rules, and actions
- Enforces compliance with the compact provisions, the rules promulgated by the commission, and the bylaws
- Establishes and maintains offices located within one or more of the member states
- Purchases and maintains insurance and bonds
- Borrows, accepts, hires, or contracts for services of personnel
- Establishes and appoints committees, including an executive committee, to act on its behalf
- Elects or appoints officers, attorneys, employees, agents, or consultants and fixes their compensation, defines their duties, and determines their qualifications
- Establishes the commission's personnel policies and programs relating to conflicts of interest, rates of compensation, and qualifications of personnel
- Accepts donations and grants of money, equipment, supplies, materials, and services
- Leases, purchases, accepts contributions or donations of, or otherwise owns, holds, improves, or uses any property, real, personal, or mixed
- Sells, conveys, mortgages, pledges, leases, exchanges, abandons, or otherwise disposes of any property, real, personal, or mixed

- Establishes a budget and makes expenditures
- Adopts a seal and bylaws governing the management and operation of the commission
- Reports annually to the legislatures, governors, judiciary, and state councils of the member states concerning commission activities during the preceding year
- Coordinates education, training, and public awareness regarding the compact, its implementation, and operation for officials and parents involved in such activity
- Establishes uniform standards for the reporting, collecting, and exchanging of data
- Maintains corporate books and records in accordance with the bylaws
- Performs functions as may be necessary or appropriate to achieve the compact's purposes
- Provides for the uniform collection and sharing of information between and among member states, schools, and military families under the compact

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- 1 Interstate Commission voting representative from each member state who shall be that state's compact commissioner; the compact commissioner and an alternate commissioner are appointed by the governor
- Ex officio, nonvoting representatives who are members of interested organizations, including members of the representative organizations of military family advocates, local education agency officials, parent and teacher groups, the U.S. Department of Defense, the Education Commission of the States, the Interstate Agreement on the Qualification of Educational Personnel, and other interstate compacts affecting the education of children of military members

Expiration date: None

Educational Opportunity for Military Children, State Council to Coordinate Participation in and Compliance with the Interstate Compact on (Interstate Commission on Educational Opportunity for Military Children)

Legislation: Senate Bill 90, Section 1; provision for creation is effective May 5, 2009; the bill requires the Texas Education Agency or the commissioner of education, as appropriate, to perform the duties and functions of the State Council

Functions:

- Provides for the coordination among Texas' agencies of government, local education agencies, and military installations concerning Texas' participation in and compliance with the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children and Interstate Commission activities
- Appoints or designates a military family education liaison to assist military families and the state in facilitating the implementation of the compact

Composition (unspecified number of members): The State Council must include at least:

- The state superintendent of education
- The superintendent of a school district with a high concentration of military children
- 1 representative from a military installation
- 1 representative each from the legislative and executive branches of government, and other offices and stakeholder groups the State Council deems appropriate

Expiration date: None

Electronic Health Information Exchange System Advisory Committee (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: House Bill 1218, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Advises the Health and Human Services Commission on issues regarding the development and implementation of the electronic health information exchange system, including any issue specified by the commission and the following issues:
 - Data to be included in an electronic health record
 - Presentation of data
 - Useful measures for quality of service and patient health outcomes
 - Federal and state laws regarding privacy and management of private patient information
 - Incentives for increasing health care provider adoption and usage of an electronic health record and the health information exchange system
 - Data exchange with local or regional health information exchanges to enhance the comprehensive nature of the information contained in electronic health records and health care provider efficiency by supporting integration of the information into the electronic health record used by health care providers
- Collaborates with the Texas Health Services Authority to ensure that the health information exchange system is interoperable with, and not an impediment to, the electronic health information infrastructure that the authority assists in developing

Composition (12-16 members): The advisory committee must include the following members, appointed by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission:

- Medicaid providers
- Child health plan program providers
- Fee-for-service providers

- At least 1 representative of the Texas Health Services Authority
- At least 1 representative of each health and human services agency
- At least 1 representative of a major provider association
- At least 1 representative of a health care facility
- At least 1 representative of a managed care organization
- At least 1 representative of the pharmaceutical industry
- At least 1 representative of Medicaid recipients and child health plan enrollees
- At least 1 representative of a local or regional health information exchange
- At least 1 representative who is skilled in pediatric medical informatics

Advisory committee members must represent the geographic and cultural diversity of Texas, have an interest in health information technology, and have experience in serving persons receiving health care through the child health plan and Medicaid programs.

Expiration date: None

Emergency Services Retirement System Medical Board, Texas

Legislation: House Bill 2751, Section 8; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Investigates essential statements and certificates made by or on behalf of a member of the Texas Emergency Services Retirement System in connection with an application for disability retirement or, as requested by the firefighters' pension commissioner, with an application for an on-duty death benefit
- Reports in writing to the commissioner the medical board's conclusions and recommendations on all matters referred to it

Composition (3 members total): 3 physicians licensed to practice medicine in Texas, designated by the retirement system's state board

Expiration date: None

Faith- and Community-Based Initiatives, Interagency Coordinating Group for

Legislation: House Bill 492, Section 1; provision for creation is effective May 30, 2009

Functions:

- Works across state agencies and with the State Commission on National and Community Service to facilitate the removal of unnecessary interagency barriers to partnerships between state agencies and faith- and community-based organizations

- Operates in a manner that promotes effective partnerships between those agencies and organizations to serve Texas residents who need assistance

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- Faith- and community-based liaisons from each of the following state agencies designated by the chief administrative officer of the respective agency in consultation with the governor:
 - The Texas Department of Rural Affairs
 - The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
 - The Texas Department of Criminal Justice
 - The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
 - The Texas Education Agency
 - The Texas Juvenile Probation Commission
 - The Texas Veterans Commission
 - The Texas Workforce Commission
 - The Texas Youth Commission
 - Other state agencies as determined by the governor
- A liaison from the State Commission on National and Community Service
- 1 employee from the Health and Human Services Commission and 1 employee from each health and human services agency designated by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission in consultation with the governor to serve as a liaison for faith- and community-based organizations

Expiration date: None

Farm-to-School Coordination Task Force, Interagency

Legislation: Senate Bill 1027, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Develops and implements a plan to facilitate the availability of locally grown food products in public schools
- Designs new education resources, or reviews or updates existing resources, on nutrition and food education that may be used by schools and school districts
- Expands food-focused experiential education programs
- Offers assistance in identifying funding sources and grants that allow schools and school districts to recover the costs associated with purchasing locally grown food products
- Develops a database of available locally grown food products for use by school food service agencies that includes contact and purchasing information for the products

- Identifies, designs, or makes available training programs to enable local farmers and ranchers to market their products to schools and school districts
- Advises schools and school districts on methods by which a school or school district may improve its facilities to allow for the use of minimally processed, fresh, and locally produced foods in school meals
- Provides technical assistance to school food service agencies to establish procedures, recipes, menu rotations, and other internal processes that accommodate the use of locally grown foods in public schools
- Offers advanced skills development training to school food service employees regarding the proper methods of handling, preparing, and serving locally grown foods
- Conducts any other activity considered by the task force as necessary to achieve its goals

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- 1 representative of the Texas Department of Agriculture, appointed by the commissioner of agriculture
- 1 representative of the Texas Education Agency, appointed by the commissioner of education
- 1 representative of the Department of State Health Services, appointed by the commissioner of state health services
- At least 1 representative of each of the following groups, appointed by the commissioner of agriculture:
 - Fruit and vegetable producer organizations
 - School food service organizations
 - Food distribution businesses
 - Child nutrition and advocacy organizations
 - Parent organizations
 - Educational institutions that conduct research in the areas of agriculture and nutrition
 - Health nutrition educators who serve school districts

Expiration date: None

Greenhouse Gas Emission Reduction Advisory Committee(s) (State Energy Conservation Office of the comptroller's office)

Legislation: Senate Bill 184, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Assists the comptroller of public accounts in identifying and evaluating greenhouse gas emission reduction strategies

Composition (unspecified number of members): The comptroller shall appoint at least 1 representative from the following agencies to serve on the advisory committee or committees:

- The Railroad Commission of Texas
- The General Land Office
- The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
- The Texas Department of Agriculture
- A Texas institution of higher education

Expiration date: None

Health and Behavioral Health Services, Workgroup on Integration of (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: House Bill 2196, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Studies and makes recommendations on the best practices in policy, training, and service delivery to promote the integration of health and behavioral health services in Texas

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- At least 1 representative of the Department of State Health Services
- At least 1 representative of the Department of Aging and Disability Services
- At least 1 representative of the Department of Family and Protective Services
- At least 1 representative of the Health and Human Services Commission
- 1 representative of the Texas Department of Insurance
- 1 representative of a state organization that represents community mental health and mental retardation centers
- 1 representative of a state organization that represents federally qualified health centers
- 1 representative of a state organization that represents substance abuse providers
- At least 1 representative of state associations that represent medical and behavioral health professionals
- At least 1 representative of a statewide organization that promotes mental health and prevention of mental disorders and advocates and educates to improve the care and treatment of persons with mental illness
- At least 1 consumer member of an organization that represents consumers of mental health services
- At least 1 representative of an organization that represents family members of consumers of mental health services

- 1 representative of a mental health philanthropy that is an administrative unit of a public institution of higher education in Texas and that agrees to provide administrative support to the workgroup
- Additional members who are recognized experts in integrated health care in Texas who have direct experience with the provision of integrated health care or who represent the interests of consumers, communities, family members, advocates, business leaders, medical and behavioral health providers, and insurers

All members are appointed by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission.

Expiration date: August 31, 2010

Health Care Translators and Interpreters, Advisory Committee on Qualifications for (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: House Bill 233, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Establishes and recommends qualifications for health care interpreters and translators
- Advises the Health and Human Services Commission on the language proficiency required for health care interpreter or translator certification; training requirements and standards of practice for interpreters and translators; the requirements, content, and administration of certification examinations; the procedures for testing, qualifying, and certifying interpreters and translators; and reciprocity agreements with other states
- Develops strategies for implementing the regulation of health care interpreters and translators
- Makes recommendations to the commission for any legislation necessary to establish and enforce qualifications for health care interpreters and translators or for the adoption of rules by state agencies regulating health care practitioners, hospitals, physician offices, and health care facilities that hire health care interpreters or translators
- Performs other activities assigned by the commission related to health care interpreters or translators

Composition (not fewer than 10 members):

- 1 representative of a professional translators and interpreters association
- 1 health care interpreter working with people who have limited English proficiency
- 1 health care interpreter working with people who are deaf or hard of hearing
- 1 representative of a mental health services provider
- 1 representative of a hospital
- 1 representative of the insurance industry

- 1 representative of a business entity that provides translators and interpreters to health care practitioners
- 1 representative of an organization that provides services to immigrants and refugees
- 1 representative of an institution of higher education
- Remaining members must include at least 1 health care practitioner and additional members, as determined by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission, who represent consumer interests

All members are appointed by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission.

Expiration date: January 1, 2021, unless continued by the legislature under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act)

Healthy Food Advisory Committee

Legislation: Senate Bill 343, Section 1; provision for creation is effective June 19, 2009

Functions:

- Studies and provides recommendations to the legislature regarding the areas of Texas that are underserved in the retail availability of fresh fruits and vegetables and other healthy foods and the impact of that limited retail availability on proper nutrition and on obesity and related chronic illnesses
- Investigates the retail availability of fresh fruits and vegetables and other healthy foods in Texas
- Develops recommendations for creating and a plan for implementing a statewide financing program to bring fresh food retailers into areas of Texas that are underserved in regard to that retail availability
- Performs other advisory duties as requested by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission or the commissioner of agriculture regarding the availability of fresh fruits and vegetables and other healthy foods in Texas
- Submits to the legislature not later than September 1, 2010, a report outlining the costs, benefits, and feasibility of a statewide financing program to bring fresh food retailers into areas of Texas that are underserved in regard to the retail availability of fresh fruits and vegetables and other healthy foods and a plan for implementing the program

Composition (8 members total):

- 4 members appointed by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission
- 4 members appointed by the commissioner of agriculture

Members must reflect the diversity of Texas, with members representing rural and urban areas and different geographical regions of Texas.

Expiration date: September 1, 2011

Holocaust and Genocide Commission, Texas (Texas Historical Commission)

Legislation: Senate Bill 482, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Provides advice and assistance to public and private primary and secondary schools and institutions of higher education in Texas regarding implementation of Holocaust and genocide courses of study and awareness programs
- Meets with appropriate representatives of public and private organizations to provide information on and to assist in planning, coordinating, or modifying Holocaust and genocide courses of study and awareness programs
- Determines which, if any, existing Holocaust or other genocide memorials, exhibits, or other resources could be included in or used to support Holocaust and genocide courses of study and awareness programs
- Compiles a list of volunteers, such as Holocaust or other genocide survivors, liberators of concentration camps, scholars, and members of the clergy, who have agreed to share, in classrooms, seminars, exhibits, or workshops, their verifiable knowledge and experiences regarding the Holocaust or other genocides
- Coordinates events in Texas memorializing the Holocaust and other genocides on January 27, International Holocaust Remembrance Day, on the Days of Remembrance established by the United States Congress, or on any other day designated by the commission for that purpose
- Solicits volunteers to participate in commemorative events designed to enhance public awareness of the continuing significance of the Holocaust and other genocides

The commission functions only in an advisory capacity.

Composition (18 members total):

- 5 public members appointed by the governor
- 5 public members appointed by the lieutenant governor
- 5 public members appointed by the speaker of the house
- The commissioner of education
- The commissioner of higher education
- The executive director of the Texas Veterans Commission

Public members of the commission serve four-year terms, must be residents of Texas, and must include:

- Persons who have served prominently as leaders of or spokespersons for public or private organizations that serve members of religious, ethnic, national heritage, or social groups that were subjected to the Holocaust or other genocides
- Persons who have significant professional experience in the field of Holocaust or genocide education

- Persons who represent liberators of Holocaust or other genocide victims
- Persons who have demonstrated a significant, particular interest in Holocaust or genocide education

Appointments of public members to the commission shall be made so that each geographic area of Texas is represented on the commission.

Expiration date: September 1, 2021, unless continued by the legislature under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act)

Housing and Health Services Coordination Council (Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1878, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Develops and implements policies to coordinate and increase state efforts to offer service-enriched housing
- Identifies barriers preventing or slowing service-enriched housing efforts, including barriers attributable to regulatory requirements and limitations, administrative limitations, limitations on funding, and ineffective or limited coordination
- Develops a system to cross-educate selected staff in state housing and health services agencies to increase the number of staff with expertise in both areas and to coordinate relevant staff activities of those agencies
- Identifies opportunities for state housing and health services agencies to provide technical assistance and training to local housing and health services entities about the cross-education of staff, coordination among those entities, and opportunities to increase local efforts to create service-enriched housing
- Develops suggested performance measures to track progress in:
 - Reducing or eliminating barriers to creating service-enriched housing
 - Increasing the coordination between state housing and health services agencies
 - Increasing the number of state housing and health services staff who are cross-educated or who have expertise in both housing and health services programs
 - Providing technical assistance to local communities by state housing and health services staff to increase the number of service-enriched housing projects
- Develops a biennial plan to implement the council's goals
- Delivers a report not later than August 1 of each even-numbered year regarding the council's findings and recommendations to the governor and the Legislative Budget Board

Composition (16 members total):

- The executive director of the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs

- 1 representative from each of the following agencies, appointed by the head of that agency:
 - The Texas Department of Rural Affairs
 - The Texas State Affordable Housing Corporation
 - The Health and Human Services Commission
 - The Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services
 - The Department of Aging and Disability Services
 - The Department of State Health Services
- 1 representative from the Department of Agriculture who is knowledgeable about the Texans Feeding Texans and Retire in Texas programs or similar programs, appointed by the commissioner of agriculture
- 1 member of the Health and Human Services Commission Promoting Independence Advisory Committee, appointed by the governor
- 1 representative from each of the following interest groups, appointed by the governor:
 - Financial institutions
 - Multifamily housing developers
 - Health services entities
 - Nonprofit organizations that advocate for affordable housing and consumer-directed long-term services and support
 - Consumers of service-enriched housing
 - Advocates for minority issues
 - Rural communities

Members of the council who are appointed by the governor serve staggered six-year terms, with the terms of two or three members expiring on September 1 of each odd-numbered year.

Expiration date: None

Human Trafficking Prevention Task Force (Office of the Attorney General)

Legislation: House Bill 4009, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Develops policies and procedures to assist in the prevention and prosecution of human trafficking crimes
- Collaborates, as needed to fulfill the duties of the task force, with United States attorneys for the districts of Texas and with special agents or customs and border protection officers and border patrol agents of specified federal agencies

- Collects, organizes, and periodically publishes statistical data on the nature and extent of human trafficking in Texas
- Solicits cooperation and assistance from state and local governmental agencies, political subdivisions of the state, nongovernmental organizations, and other persons for the purpose of collecting and organizing statistical data related to human trafficking
- Ensures that each state or local governmental agency and political subdivision of the state that assists in the prevention of human trafficking collects statistical data related to human trafficking, including, as appropriate:
 - The number of investigations concerning, arrests and prosecutions for, and convictions of the offenses of trafficking of persons and of forgery or public indecency if the latter are committed as part of a criminal episode involving the trafficking of persons
 - Demographic information on persons who are convicted of the offenses described above and persons who are the victims of those offenses
 - Geographic routes by which human trafficking victims are trafficked and geographic patterns in human trafficking, including the country or state of origin and the country or state of destination
 - Means of transportation and methods used by persons who engage in trafficking to transport their victims
 - Social and economic factors that create a demand for the labor or services that victims of human trafficking are forced to provide
- Works with the Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards and Education to develop and conduct training for law enforcement personnel, victim service providers, and medical service providers to identify victims of human trafficking
- Assists and trains, on the request of a judge of a county court, county court at law, or district court or a county attorney, district attorney, or criminal district attorney, the judge or the judge's staff or the attorney or the attorney's staff in the recognition and prevention of human trafficking
- Examines training protocols related to human trafficking issues as developed and implemented by federal, state, and local law enforcement agencies
- Collaborates with state and local governmental agencies, political subdivisions of the state, and nongovernmental organizations to implement a media awareness campaign in communities affected by human trafficking
- Develops recommendations on how to strengthen state and local efforts to prevent human trafficking, protect and assist human trafficking victims, and prosecute human trafficking offenders
- Submits a report not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year regarding the task force's activities, findings, and recommendations, including any proposed legislation, to the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the legislature

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- The governor or the governor's designee

- The attorney general or the attorney general's designee
- The executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission or the executive commissioner's designee
- The commissioner of the Department of Family and Protective Services or the commissioner's designee
- The public safety director of the Department of Public Safety or the director's designee
- 1 representative from each of the following state agencies, appointed by the chief administrative officer of the respective agency:
 - The Texas Workforce Commission
 - The Texas Department of Criminal Justice
 - The Texas Youth Commission
 - The Texas Juvenile Probation Commission
 - The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission
- The following members appointed by the attorney general:
 - 1 public defender
 - 1 attorney representing the state
 - 1 representative of a hotel and motel association
 - 1 representative of a district and county attorneys association
 - 1 representative of a state police association
 - Representatives of sheriff's departments
 - Representatives of local law enforcement agencies affected by human trafficking
 - Representatives of nongovernmental entities making comprehensive efforts to combat human trafficking by identifying human trafficking victims, providing legal or other services to human trafficking victims, participating in community outreach or public awareness efforts regarding human trafficking, providing or developing training regarding the prevention of human trafficking, or engaging in other activities designed to prevent human trafficking

Expiration date: September 1, 2013

Insurance-Funded Prepaid Funeral Benefits, Advisory Committee on the Regulation of (Texas Department of Banking)

Legislation: House Bill 3762, Section 21; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions: Reviews and makes recommendations regarding the technical procedures and processes employed by the Texas Department of Banking to regulate insurance-funded prepaid funeral benefits and monitor compliance of sellers of insurance-funded contracts, including recommendations relating to:

- The relevance and usefulness of records that the department requires a seller to maintain for examination purposes
- The existence and identification of any specific record that an insurance company is required to maintain and produce under the Insurance Code that could be substituted as a record that meets the objectives and requirements of the department in regulating prepaid funeral services
- The scope, efficiency, and effectiveness of examination procedures employed by the department to verify compliance with state law relating to prepaid funeral services
- Any other matter submitted to the committee by the banking commissioner of Texas

Composition (8-9 members):

- 2 representatives of the Texas Department of Banking
- 2 representatives of funeral providers that actively sell and service insurance-funded contracts in Texas
- 4 representatives of permit holders that actively sell insurance-funded contracts in Texas, provided that representation is reasonably balanced to include permit holders that sell for domestic, foreign, small, and large insurance companies

All members are appointed by the banking commissioner of Texas. At the commissioner's request, the commissioner of insurance may appoint a representative of the Texas Department of Insurance to serve on the advisory committee.

Expiration date: None

Invasive Species Coordinating Committee, Texas (State Soil and Water Conservation Board)

Legislation: House Bill 865, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Serves as a catalyst for cooperation among state agencies in the area of invasive species control
- Facilitates governmental efforts, including efforts of local governments and special districts, to prevent and manage invasive species
- Makes recommendations to state agencies regarding research, technology transfer, and management actions related to invasive species control
- Facilitates the exchange of information so that each member agency is informed of committee plans, recommendations, and proposals for research, education, and

implementation of activities to prevent, detect, assess, monitor, contain, and control or eradicate invasive species, and to reduce environmental and economic threats and threats to human health from invasive species

- Provides a forum for developing coordinated interagency strategies and policies for invasive species control
- Provides technical information and input to regional and national invasive species control coordination efforts, including the National Invasive Species Management Plan
- Facilitates the review of committee technical decisions and work product by specialists and interested persons
- Reports as needed to the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house on committee plans, work product, and accomplishments

Composition (at least 6 members):

- 1 representative from each of the following member agencies:
 - The Department of Agriculture
 - The Parks and Wildlife Department
 - The State Soil and Water Conservation Board
 - The Texas AgriLife Extension Service
 - The Texas Forest Service
 - The Texas Water Development Board
- 1 representative of any other state agency having an interest in controlling invasive species that is added to the committee following a request by that agency and a unanimous agreement among member agencies

The administrative head of each member agency designates 1 individual as that agency's representative and 1 individual to serve as an alternate representative.

Expiration date: September 1, 2013, unless continued by the legislature under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act)

Jobs and Education for Texans (JET) Grant Program Advisory Board (Texas Education Agency)

Legislation:

- House Bill 3, Section 64; provision for creation is effective June 19, 2009
- House Bill 1935, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Assists the comptroller of public accounts in administering the JET Grant Program
- Meets at least once each quarter to review received grant applications and recommend awarding grants

Composition (7 members total):

- 1 member appointed by the governor
- 1 member appointed by the lieutenant governor
- 1 member appointed by the speaker of the house
- 1 member appointed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board
- 1 member appointed by the Texas Workforce Commission
- 1 member of the public appointed by the comptroller of public accounts
- The comptroller of public accounts, who serves as the presiding officer

All members serve two-year terms.

Expiration date: None

Literacy Council, Interagency (Texas Workforce Commission)

Legislation: House Bill 4328, Section 1; provision for creation is effective June 19, 2009

Functions:

- Studies current research to assess the adult literacy needs in Texas, including literacy needs relating to business and finance, workforce and technology, civics, and health and wellness
- Consults with key stakeholders to identify barriers to improving literacy and evidence-based best practices for improving literacy
- Reviews the status of the programs and services administered by each agency or entity represented on the council that promote literacy in an effort to coordinate efforts, align services, reduce redundancies, implement best practices, integrate support services, and improve accountability
- Builds existing funding streams and identifies additional state and federal funding sources available for the promotion of literacy in Texas
- Raises literacy awareness and engages community leaders in creative solution building for improving literacy in Texas
- Develops a comprehensive statewide action plan for improving literacy in Texas, including a recommended timeline for implementation
- Submits to both houses of the legislature, the governor, and the Texas Workforce Investment Council on or before November 1 of each even-numbered year a written report on the development of the council's statewide action plan, the actions taken in furtherance of the plan, the areas that need improvement in implementing the plan, any change to the plan, and the programs and services that address literacy needs in Texas

Composition (9 members total):

- 1 representative of the Texas Workforce Commission, appointed by the executive director of the Texas Workforce Commission

- 1 representative of the Texas Education Agency, appointed by the commissioner of education
- 1 representative of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, appointed by the commissioner of higher education
- 6 public members who are leaders of the business or nonprofit community engaged in literacy promotion efforts, appointed by the executive director of the Texas Workforce Commission

Members of the council serve two-year terms, with the terms expiring February 1 of each odd-numbered year.

Expiration date: September 1, 2019, unless continued by the legislature under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act)

Media Production Advisory Committee (Music, Film, Television, and Multimedia Office within the office of the governor)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1929, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Reviews applications and makes recommendations to the Music, Film, Television, and Multimedia Office for designation of qualified media production locations

Composition (11 members total):

- The director of the Texas Film Commission division of the governor’s office
- 1 representative of the office of the comptroller of public accounts, appointed by the comptroller
- 9 representatives appointed by the comptroller who, collectively, provide a balanced representation of the different geographic regions of Texas and who represent, by at least 1 member serving on the advisory committee, each of the following types of companies or organizations:
 - Animation production companies
 - Film and television production companies
 - Labor or workforce organizations
 - Equipment vendors
 - The video gaming industry
 - Commercial production companies

Expiration date: None

Natural Disaster Housing Reconstruction Advisory Committee (Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs)

Legislation: House Bill 2450, Section 2; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Develops a natural disaster housing reconstruction plan by:

- Evaluating existing systems of providing temporary housing to victims of natural disasters and developing alternative systems to increase efficiency and cost-effectiveness
- Evaluating existing models for providing permanent replacement housing to victims of natural disasters
- Designing alternatives to existing models to improve the sustainability, affordability, desirability, and quality of housing rebuilt in the event of future natural disasters
- Evaluating economic circumstances of elderly, disabled, and low-income victims of natural disasters and developing models for providing affordable replacement housing
- Recommending programs for the rapid and efficient large-scale production of temporary and permanent replacement housing following a natural disaster
- Encouraging the participation, coordination, and involvement of appropriate federal organizations

Composition (unspecified number of members): Representatives from appropriate local, state, and federal entities and organizations and nonprofit organizations appointed by the executive director of the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs

Expiration date: None

Newborn Screening Advisory Committee (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: House Bill 1795, Section 3; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Advises the Department of State Health Services regarding strategic planning, policy, rules, and services related to newborn screening and additional newborn screening tests

Composition (unspecified number of members): Members are appointed by the commissioner of state health services and must include the following members:

- Health care providers
- A hospital representative
- Persons who have family members affected by a condition for which newborn screening is or may be required
- Persons who are involved in the delivery of newborn screening services, follow-up, or treatment in Texas

Expiration date: None

Newborn Screening, House Interim Committee to Study

Legislation: House Bill 1672, Section 4; provision for creation is effective May 27, 2009; the speaker of the house may elect to charge a house standing committee to undertake the committee functions as an alternative to charging such an interim committee

Functions:

- Studies the time frame and procedures for the disclosure required by state law relating to certain heritable diseases and disorders to the parent, managing conservator, or guardian of a newborn child
- Analyzes whether procedures should be developed by the Department of State Health Services to provide confirmation to a parent, managing conservator, or guardian of a newborn child that a stored specimen has been destroyed as required by a written statement submitted by the parent, managing conservator, or guardian
- Studies standardization of the disclosure process for health care facilities in Texas
- Files a report on the results of the interim study with both houses of the legislature not later than December 15, 2010

Composition (unspecified number of members): Members are selected by the speaker of the house

Expiration date: None stated, but the nature of the charge implies the committee's termination on submission of its final report

Nonprofit Capacity, Task Force on Strengthening (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: House Bill 492, Section 1; provision for creation is effective May 30, 2009

Functions:

- Makes recommendations for strengthening the capacity of faith- and community-based organizations for managing human resources and funds and providing services
- Holds at least three public hearings in various geographic areas of Texas, at least one of which is outside of Central Texas, to hear testimony regarding strengthening the capacity of faith- and community-based organizations to manage human resources and funds and provide services, if appropriated funds are sufficient for that purpose
- Presents a report and legislative recommendations to the House Committee on Human Services or its successor, the House Committee on Public Health or its successor, and the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services or its successor, not later than September 1, 2010

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- Representatives from state agencies, nonprofit organizations, the academic community, and the foundation community
- Other individuals who have expertise that would be valuable to the task force

The executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission is required to establish the task force in consultation with the governor.

Expiration date: September 1, 2011

Nursery and Floral Advisory Council, Texas (Texas Department of Agriculture)

Legislation: House Bill 3496, Section 1; provision for creation is effective June 19, 2009

Function: Advises the Texas Department of Agriculture on the most effective methods for promoting and marketing the Texas nursery and floral industries

Composition (7 members total): All members are appointed by the commissioner of agriculture. Each member must have been engaged in the nursery, floral, or landscaping business for at least five years.

Expiration date: None

Nursing Educational Programs, Committee to Select Independent Researcher to Study

Legislation: House Bill 3961, Section 16; provision for creation is effective June 19, 2009

Functions:

- Selects an independent researcher to contract with the nursing resource section established within the comprehensive health professions resource center by the statewide health coordinating council to design and conduct the research for the nursing resource section's study of alternate ways to ensure clinical competency of graduates of nursing educational programs
- Serves as the oversight committee for the study on nursing educational programs

Composition (8 members total):

- 1 representative elected by a majority of the nursing advisory committee, who is the chair of the selection committee
- 1 representative designated by the Texas Health Care Policy Council
- The presiding officer of the Texas Board of Nursing
- 1 representative of the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board, designated by the governor
- 1 representative designated by the Texas Hospital Association
- 1 representative designated by the Texas Association of Business
- 1 representative designated by a clinical competency assessment program that meets certain relevant requirements
- The nurse researcher member of the nursing advisory committee

Expiration date: None stated, but the nature of the charge implies the committee's termination on submission of the nursing resource section's final report to the governor, the Senate Committee on Health and Human Services, and the House Committee on Public Health not later than June 30, 2014

Offender Reentry Task Force (Texas Department of Criminal Justice)

Legislation: House Bill 1711, Section 2; provision for creation is effective June 19, 2009

Functions:

- Identifies gaps in services for offenders following their release or discharge in the areas of employment, housing, substance abuse treatment, medical care, and any other areas in which the offenders need special services
- Coordinates with providers of existing local reentry and reintegration programs, including programs operated by a municipality or county, to make recommendations regarding the provision of comprehensive services to offenders following their release or discharge

Composition (unspecified number of members): The task force is established by a memorandum of understanding among the following entities:

- The Texas Department of Criminal Justice
- The Texas Youth Commission
- The Texas Workforce Commission
- The Department of Public Safety
- The Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
- The Texas Correctional Office on Offenders with Medical or Mental Impairments
- The Health and Human Services Commission
- The Texas Judicial Council
- An organization selected by the Texas Department of Criminal Justice that advocates for or provides reentry or reintegration services to offenders following their release or discharge from a correctional facility

Expiration date: None

Physician Health and Rehabilitation Advisory Committee (Texas Medical Board)

Legislation: Senate Bill 292, Section 2; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Makes recommendations to the governing board of the Texas Physician Health Program at the request of the governing board

Composition (unspecified number of members): The governing board of the Texas Physician Health Program shall appoint physicians to the advisory committee who have experience in disorders commonly affecting physicians or physician assistants. The Texas Medical Board, with the advice and in consultation with the Texas Physician Assistant Board and Texas-based professional associations of physicians and physician assistants, shall adopt rules relating to the appointment of members to the advisory committee, including length of terms, procedures for filling a vacancy, and conflict-of-interest provisions.

Expiration date: None

Physician Health Program Governing Board, Texas (Texas Medical Board)

Legislation: Senate Bill 292, Section 2; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Provides advice and counsel to the Texas Medical Board
- Establishes policy and procedures for the operation and administration of the Texas Physician Health Program to promote physician and physician assistant wellness and treatment

Composition (unspecified number of members): The president of the Texas Medical Board shall appoint persons to serve on the governing board, including physicians, physician assistants, and other related professionals with experience addressing health conditions commonly found in the population of monitored physicians or physician assistants. The Texas Medical Board, in consultation with the Texas Physician Assistant Board and Texas-based professional associations of physicians and physician assistants, shall adopt rules relating to the appointment of members to the governing board, including length of terms, procedures for filling a vacancy, and conflict-of-interest provisions.

Expiration date: None

Pollution Control Property Advisory Committee (Texas Commission on Environmental Quality)

Legislation: House Bill 3206, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Advises the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality regarding the implementation of the tax exemption for pollution control property

Composition (unspecified number of members): The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality appoints committee members consisting of the following:

- Representatives of industry, appraisal districts, taxing units, and environmental groups
- Members who are not representatives of any of the above entities but have substantial technical expertise in pollution control technology and environmental engineering

Expiration date: None

Polygraph Advisory Committee (Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1005, Section 2; provision for creation is effective May 27, 2009

Function: Advises the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation on:

- Educational requirements for a polygraph examiner
- The contents of a licensing examination

- Technical issues related to a polygraph examination
- The specific offenses for which a conviction would constitute grounds for the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation to revoke, suspend, or deny a license
- Administering and enforcing the Polygraph Examiners Act

Composition (5 members total):

- 2 polygraph examiner members who are qualified polygraph examiners for a governmental law enforcement agency
- 2 polygraph examiner members who are qualified polygraph examiners in the commercial field
- 1 member who represents the public

All members are appointed by the presiding officer of the commission with the approval of the commission. Members serve staggered six-year terms. The commission’s presiding officer appoints a committee member to serve as the committee’s presiding officer for a two-year term.

Expiration date: None

Public Corruption Unit (Department of Public Safety)

Legislation: House Bill 2086, Section 41; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Investigates and assists in the management of allegations of participation in organized criminal activity by an individual elected, appointed, or employed to serve as a peace officer for a Texas governmental entity or by a federal law enforcement officer while performing duties in Texas
- Assists district attorneys and county attorneys in the investigation and prosecution of allegations described above
- Assists a state or local law enforcement agency, if requested by the agency, with the investigation of such allegations against law enforcement officers in the agency
- Assists the United States Department of Justice or any other appropriate federal department or agency in the investigation and prosecution of such allegations
- Assists a federal law enforcement agency, if requested by the agency, with the investigation of such allegations against law enforcement officers in the agency
- Serves as a clearinghouse for information relating to the investigation and prosecution of such allegations
- Reports to the highest-ranking officer of the Texas Rangers division of the Department of Public Safety

Composition: Unspecified

Expiration date: None

Public School Finance Weights, Allotments, and Adjustments, Select Committee on

Legislation: House Bill 3646, Section 65; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Conducts a comprehensive review of weights, allotments, and adjustments under the public school finance system
- Conducts public hearings throughout Texas and solicits testimony about the weights, allotments, and adjustments under the school finance system from parents of public school children and other interested persons
- Reviews and identifies specific short-term goals that will assist the state in meeting the objectives and goals of public education, including recommendations regarding methods to close the achievement gap and define and measure readiness for college and the workforce, revisions to the public accountability system, and methods for promoting efficient and effective support structures for public schools
- Provides a report not later than December 1, 2010, that states the review findings and includes any recommendations for statutory changes

Composition (15 members total):

- 4 state senators, appointed by the lieutenant governor
- 4 state representatives, appointed by the speaker of the house
- The commissioner of education
- 3 persons currently employed at a primary or secondary school in Texas, 1 each appointed by the lieutenant governor, speaker of the house, and governor
- 3 representatives of the business community, 1 each appointed by the lieutenant governor, speaker of the house, and governor

Expiration date: January 11, 2011

Recreational Boating Safety, Advisory Panel on

Legislation: House Bill 3108, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Conducts a study assessing current conditions and making recommendations regarding:
 - Boating safety generally and ways to improve boating safety in Texas
 - The effect of boater education on boating safety and the boat rental, boat sales, and tourism industries
 - The effect of requiring every boat owner to carry liability insurance on boating safety and the boat rental, boat sales, and tourism industries

- The effectiveness of law enforcement on lakes and rivers and ways to increase such effectiveness, including possible increases in the number of enforcement officers and state or local responsibility for the increases
- Any other issue the advisory panel finds relevant to boating safety in Texas
- Provides an estimate, for each area of the study, of the costs to boaters and the boating and tourism industries if the panel's recommendations were implemented
- Reports the results of the study not later than December 31, 2010, to the Parks and Wildlife Department, the governor, the lieutenant governor, the speaker of the house, and the members of the committee in each house of the legislature with primary jurisdiction over recreational boating

Composition (9 members total):

- 3 members appointed by the governor
- 3 members appointed by the lieutenant governor
- 3 members appointed by the speaker of the house

The appointments by each appointing official must include at least one representative of a boat dealer, distributor, or manufacturer licensed in Texas.

Expiration date: None stated, but the nature of the charge implies the advisory panel's termination on submission of its report

Renewing Our Communities Account Advisory Committee

Legislation: House Bill 492, Section 1; provision for creation is effective May 30, 2009

Function: Makes recommendations to the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission regarding the commission's powers and duties with respect to the renewing our communities account created in the general revenue fund

Composition (unspecified number of members): The executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall appoint leaders of faith- and community-based organizations in Texas to serve on the advisory committee. The advisory committee members must represent the religious, cultural, and geographic diversity of Texas and the diversity of organization types and sizes in Texas.

Expiration date: None

Southern High-Speed Rail Commission

Legislation: House Bill 646, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Studies the feasibility of providing interstate rapid rail transit service between Texas, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Alabama

Composition (28 members total):

- The governor of each of the four party states or that governor's designee

- 1 representative each from:
 - The Mississippi Energy and Transportation Board, or its successor
 - The Office of Aviation and Public Transportation of the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, or its successor
 - The Alabama Department of Energy, or its successor
 - The Texas Department of Transportation
- 5 citizens from each of the four party states, appointed by the governor of the state

Appointed members serve four-year terms. The citizens appointed from Texas must reside in a federally designated high-speed rail corridor.

Expiration date: None

State Supported Living Centers, Office of Independent Ombudsman for (Department of Aging and Disability Services)

Legislation: Senate Bill 643, Section 22; provision for creation is effective June 11, 2009

Functions:

- Investigates, evaluates, and secures the rights of residents and clients of state supported living centers and the intermediate care facility for the mentally retarded (ICF-MR) component of the Rio Grande State Center
- Evaluates the process by which a center investigates, reviews, and reports an injury to a resident or client or an unusual incident
- Evaluates the delivery of services to residents and clients to ensure that their rights are fully observed, including ensuring that each center conducts sufficient unannounced patrols
- Refers a complaint alleging the abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a resident or client immediately to the Department of Family and Protective Services
- Refers a complaint alleging employee misconduct that does not involve abuse, neglect, or exploitation or a possible violation of an ICF-MR standard or condition of participation to the regulatory services division of the Department of Aging and Disability Services
- Refers a complaint alleging a criminal offense, other than an allegation of abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a resident or client, to the Health and Human Services Commission's office of inspector general
- Conducts investigations of complaints, other than complaints alleging criminal offenses or the abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a resident or client, under certain circumstances
- Conducts biennial on-site audits of the ratio of direct care employees to residents, the provision and adequacy of employee training, and, as appropriate, the provision of specialized training at each center

- Conducts an annual audit of each center’s policies, practices, and procedures to ensure that each resident and client is encouraged to exercise the resident’s or client’s rights
- Prepares and delivers an annual report regarding the findings of each audit to:
 - The executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission
 - The commissioner of mental health and mental retardation
 - The Aging and Disability Services Council
 - The governor
 - The lieutenant governor
 - The speaker of the house
 - The standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with primary jurisdiction over state supported living centers
 - The state auditor
- Requires a center to provide access to all records, data, and other information under the center’s control that the ombudsman determines is necessary to investigate a complaint or conduct an audit
- Reviews all final reports produced by the Department of Family and Protective Services, the regulatory services division of the Department of Aging and Disability Services, and the Health and Human Services Commission’s office of inspector general regarding a complaint referred by the ombudsman
- Provides assistance to a resident, client, authorized representative of a resident or client, or family member of a resident or client who the ombudsman determines is in need of assistance
- Makes appropriate referrals under any of the ombudsman’s duties and powers
- Monitors and evaluates actions of the Department of Aging and Disability Services relating to any problem identified or recommendation included in a report received from the Department of Family and Protective Services relating to an investigation of alleged abuse, neglect, or exploitation of a resident or client
- Establishes a permanent, toll-free number for receiving any information concerning the violation of a right of a resident or client
- Submits on a biannual basis to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house, and chairs of the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with primary jurisdiction over state supported living centers a report that is both aggregated and disaggregated by individual center and describes the work of the ombudsman, the results of any review or investigation undertaken by the ombudsman, any recommendations that the ombudsman has in relation to the ombudsman’s duties, and any recommendations that the ombudsman has for systemic improvements needed to decrease incidents of abuse, neglect, or exploitation at an individual center or at all centers
- Reports immediately to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house, and chairs of the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with primary jurisdiction over the Department of Aging and Disability Services any serious or flagrant

case of abuse or injury of a resident or client about which the ombudsman is made aware, problem concerning the administration of a center program or operation, or interference by a center, the Department of Aging and Disability Services, or the Health and Human Services Commission with an investigation conducted by the ombudsman

Composition (unspecified number of members): The governor shall appoint the independent ombudsman, who must have at least five years of experience managing and ensuring the quality of care and services provided to individuals with mental retardation. The independent ombudsman shall hire assistant ombudsmen to perform the same duties and exercise the same powers as the independent ombudsman and shall station an assistant ombudsman at each center. An assistant ombudsman must have at least five years of experience ensuring the quality of care and services provided to individuals with mental retardation.

Expiration date: None

Tax Professional Advisory Committee, Texas (Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation)

Legislation: House Bill 2447, Sections 3-8,17; provisions for creation are effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Recommends to the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation rules and standards regarding technical issues relating to tax professionals
- Provides advice to the commission regarding continuing education courses and curricula for registrants
- Provides advice to the commission regarding the contents of any examination required by the commission under the Property Taxation Professional Certification Act
- Educates, and responds to questions from, the commission and the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation regarding issues affecting tax professionals

Composition (7 members total):

- 2 members who are certified in Texas as registered professional appraisers
- 2 members who are certified as registered Texas collectors or registered Texas assessors
- 3 members who represent the public

Members are appointed by the presiding officer of the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation with the approval of the commission and serve six-year terms.

Expiration date: None

Technology Research Data Collection, Select Interim Committee to Study

Legislation: House Bill 51, Section 18; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Studies the feasibility of collecting data and maintaining an electronic data collection relating to specialized technology research projects developed or conducted at Texas public universities, Texas public university research facilities, or other facilities operated by a state agency to facilitate coordination among the universities and facilities on the projects and to improve access to and awareness of the specialized research and technology developed at those entities
- Reports the committee's findings and recommendations to the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house not later than December 1, 2010

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- 1 representative of each of the following institutions, named by that institution:
 - The University of Texas at Austin
 - Texas A&M University
 - Texas Tech University
 - The University of Houston
 - The University of North Texas
 - The University of Texas at Arlington
 - The University of Texas at Dallas
 - The University of Texas at El Paso
 - The University of Texas at San Antonio
- A number of members appointed by the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board that the coordinating board considers appropriate to represent the coordinating board, data collection providers, and the technology industry

Expiration date: January 16, 2011

Texas-Israel Exchange Advisory Committee (Texas Department of Agriculture)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1016, Section 3.06; creation is authorized, not mandated; authorization is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Provides guidance and direction on activities conducted under the Texas-Israel Exchange Research Program and the expenditure of money appropriated for the program

Composition: Unspecified

Expiration date: None

Texas Medical Child Abuse Resources and Education System (MEDCARES) Advisory Committee (Department of State Health Services)

Legislation: Senate Bill 2080, Section 7; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Advises the Department of State Health Services and the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission in establishing rules and priorities for the use of grant funds awarded through the MEDCARES grant program
- Assists the Department of State Health Services in submitting a report not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year to the governor and the legislature regarding the grant activities of the MEDCARES grant program and grant recipients, including the results and outcomes of grants provided under the program

Composition (9 members total):

- The state Medicaid director or the director's designee
- The medical director for the Department of Family and Protective Services or the medical director's designee
- 7 members appointed by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission as follows:
 - 2 pediatricians with expertise in child abuse or neglect
 - 1 nurse with expertise in child abuse or neglect
 - 1 representative of a pediatric residency training program
 - 1 representative of a children's hospital
 - 1 representative of a children's advocacy center
 - 1 member of the Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council

Expiration date: None

Timothy Cole Advisory Panel on Wrongful Convictions

Legislation: House Bill 498, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Assists the Task Force on Indigent Defense in conducting a study and preparing a report regarding the prevention of wrongful convictions

Composition (10 members total):

- The director of the Task Force on Indigent Defense
- The chair of the Senate Committee on Criminal Justice or a state senator designated by the chair
- The chair of the Senate Committee on Jurisprudence or a state senator designated by the chair
- The chair of the House Committee on Criminal Jurisprudence or a state representative designated by the chair
- The chair of the House Committee on Corrections or a state representative designated by the chair

- The executive director of the Texas Criminal Defense Lawyers Association or the executive director's designee
- The president of the Texas District and County Attorneys Association or the president's designee
- The presiding judge of the court of criminal appeals or a judge of the court of criminal appeals designated by the presiding judge
- 1 representative of a Texas public law school, chosen by the deans of the public law schools in Texas
- 1 employee of the office of the governor, appointed by the governor

Expiration date: January 1, 2011

Title IV-D Child Health Care Program, Advisory Committee on the (Office of the Attorney General)

Legislation: Senate Bill 865, Section 9; creation is authorized, not mandated; authorization is effective June 19, 2009

Function: Consults with the director of the Title IV-D agency (office of the attorney general) regarding the implementation and operation of the health care program for certain children in Title IV-D cases

Composition (unspecified number of members): The director of the Title IV-D agency may appoint any of the following persons to the advisory committee:

- Representatives of appropriate public and private entities, including state agencies concerned with health care management
- Members of the judiciary
- Members of the legislature
- Representatives of the insurance industry

Expiration date: None

Uniform County Subdivision Regulation, Task Force on (Texas Water Development Board)

Legislation: House Bill 2275, Section 2; provision for creation is effective June 19, 2009

Functions:

- Researches and identifies the conflicts and deficiencies in current law regarding the regulation of the development of subdivisions in the unincorporated areas of counties near the international border and in economically distressed counties
- Develops recommendations and drafts a proposal for legislation to create uniform standards for the regulation of the development of those subdivisions

- Submits, not later than December 1, 2010, findings, recommendations, and proposals for legislation to the standing committees of the senate and house of representatives having primary jurisdiction over border regions or county affairs

Composition (23 members total):

- 6 county officials or employees responsible for regulating subdivisions in counties near the international border, with 1 member appointed by the executive administrator of the Texas Water Development Board from each of the following counties: Cameron, El Paso, Hidalgo, Nueces, Starr, and Webb
- 6 members of organizations that represent the interests of colonia residents, appointed by the executive director of the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs
- 3 county officials or employees responsible for regulating subdivisions in certain economically distressed counties, appointed by the executive administrator of the Texas Water Development Board
- 1 representative of the Texas Water Development Board, appointed by the executive administrator of the board
- 1 member who has legal expertise in subdivision regulation appointed by the attorney general to represent the interests of the state
- The secretary of state or a designee of the secretary of state who has expertise in matters affecting colonias
- 3 members appointed by the president of the Texas Association of Builders to represent the interests of builders and land developers
- 1 representative of the Texas Conference of Urban Counties, appointed by the executive director of that organization
- 1 representative of the County Judges and Commissioners Association of Texas, appointed by the president of that association

Expiration date: September 2, 2011

Used Automotive Parts Recycling Advisory Board (Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation)

Legislation:

- House Bill 3097, Section 4.07; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009
- Senate Bill 1095, Section 7; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Provides advice and recommendations to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation on technical matters relevant to the administration and enforcement of the Texas Used Automotive Parts Recycling Act, including licensing standards

Composition (5 members total):

- 4 members who represent used automotive parts businesses in Texas owned by domestic entities

- 1 member who represents a used automotive parts business in Texas owned by a foreign entity

Members are appointed by the presiding officer of the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation with the approval of the commission. Members serve six-year terms, with the terms of one or two members expiring on February 1 of each odd-numbered year.

Expiration date: None

Volunteer Advocate Program Advisory Committee (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: House Bill 4154, Section 1; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Advises the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission on the development of the volunteer advocate program for the elderly by reviewing and commenting on:
 - Program design and selection of any pilot sites operated under the program
 - The volunteer advocate training curriculum
 - Requests for oversight requirements for any pilot projects operated under the program
 - Evaluation of any pilot projects operated under the program
 - Requirements for periodic reports to an elderly individual or the individual's designated caregiver and providers of health care or other services
 - Other issues as requested by the executive commissioner
- Submits a report not later than December 1, 2010, to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house, and standing committees of the senate and house of representatives with primary jurisdiction over matters concerning health and human services on the advisory committee's activities, findings, and recommendations

Composition (12 members total): The executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall appoint the advisory committee composed of the following members:

- 1 representative of the Department of Aging and Disability Services
- 1 representative of the Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services
- 1 representative of the Department of State Health Services
- 1 representative of the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature
- 1 representative of an area agency on aging
- 1 representative of United Ways of Texas
- 1 home health provider

- 1 assisted living provider
- 1 nursing home provider
- 1 representative of Texas Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA)
- 1 licensed gerontologist
- 1 representative of AARP

Expiration date: None

Volunteer-Supported Decision-Making Advocate Pilot Program Work Group (Health and Human Services Commission)

Legislation: House Bill 1454, Section 2; provision for creation is effective May 20, 2009

Function: Develops the rules and structure of the pilot program to promote the provision of supported decision-making services to persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities and persons with other cognitive disabilities who live in the community

Composition (unspecified number of members):

- The work group must consist of:
 - Family members of, and advocates for, persons with intellectual and developmental disabilities and persons with other cognitive disabilities
 - Other persons interested in promoting supported decision-making services
- The work group must include:
 - At least 1 representative of a self-advocacy organization
 - At least 1 self-advocate

All members are appointed by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission.

Expiration date: September 1, 2013

Windstorm Insurance Legislative Oversight Board

Legislation: House Bill 4409, Section 41; provision for creation is effective June 19, 2009

Functions:

- Receives information about rules proposed by the Texas Department of Insurance relating to windstorm insurance and may submit comments to the commissioner of insurance on the proposed rules
- Monitors windstorm insurance in Texas, including the adequacy of rates, the operation of the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association, and the availability of coverage
- Reviews recommendations for legislation proposed by the department or the association

- Reports not later than November 15 of each even-numbered year on the board's activities to the governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house. The report must include an analysis of any problems identified and recommendations for any legislative action necessary to address those problems and to foster stability, availability, and competition within the windstorm insurance industry

Composition (8 members total):

- 4 state senators appointed by the lieutenant governor, including the chair of the Senate Committee on Business and Commerce
- 4 state representatives appointed by the speaker of the house

Expiration date: None

Wine Industry Development and Marketing Advisory Committee (Texas Department of Agriculture)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1016, Section 4.02; provision for creation is effective September 1, 2009

Functions:

- Develops a long-term vision and marketable identity for the wine industry in Texas that take into consideration future industry development, funding, research, educational programming, risk management, and marketing
- Assists the commissioner of agriculture in establishing and implementing the Texas Wine Marketing Assistance Program

Composition (unspecified number of members): The commissioner of agriculture appoints members to represent a diverse cross-section of the wine industry, including representatives of the following:

- Grape growers
- Wineries
- Wholesalers
- Package stores
- Retailers
- Researchers
- Consumers
- The Department of Agriculture
- The Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission

Members serve two-year terms.

Expiration date: None

Renamed Entities

Crime Stoppers Council, Texas

Previous Name: Crime Stoppers Advisory Council

Legislation: House Bill 590, Section 1; the name change is effective May 27, 2009

Functions (unchanged):

- Encourages, advises, and assists in the creation of crime stoppers organizations
- Fosters the detection of crime and encourages persons to report information about criminal acts
- Encourages media to broadcast reenactments and to inform the public of the functions of crime stoppers organizations' operations and programs
- Promotes the process of crime stoppers organizations to forward information about criminal acts to the appropriate law enforcement agencies
- Helps law enforcement agencies detect and combat crime by increasing the flow of information to and among law enforcement agencies
- Creates specialized programs targeted at detecting specific crimes or types of crimes
- Encourages, advises, and assists crime stoppers organizations in implementing those programs

Composition (unchanged—5 members total): Members are appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate. At least 3 members must be persons who have participated in a crime stoppers organization in any of the following capacities:

- As a law enforcement coordinator
- As a member of the board of directors
- As a media representative
- As an administrative officer

Expiration date (unchanged): None

Department of Rural Affairs, Texas

Previous Name: Office of Rural Community Affairs

Legislation: House Bill 1918, Section 8; the name change is effective September 1, 2009

Functions (unchanged):

- Assists rural communities in the areas of economic development, community development, rural health, and rural housing

- Serves as a clearinghouse for information and resources on all state and federal programs affecting rural communities
- Identifies and prioritizes policy issues and concerns affecting rural communities in Texas and makes recommendations to the legislature to address such concerns
- Monitors developments, including actions of state government, that have a substantial effect on rural Texas communities and compiles an annual report describing and evaluating the condition of rural communities
- Administers the federal community development block grant nonentitlement program
- Administers programs supporting rural health care
- Performs research to determine the most beneficial and cost-effective ways to improve the welfare of rural communities
- Ensures that the department qualifies as the state's office of rural health for the purpose of receiving grants from the Office of Rural Health Policy of the United States Department of Health and Human Services under federal law
- Manages the state's Medicare rural hospital flexibility program
- Seeks state and federal money available for economic development in rural areas for department programs
- Regularly cross-trains department employees with employees of the Department of Agriculture regarding the programs administered and services provided by each agency to rural communities
- Works with interested persons to assist volunteer fire departments and emergency services districts in rural areas
- Submits a biennial report to the legislature regarding the department's activities, activities of the Texas Rural Foundation, and any findings and recommendations relating to rural issues

Composition (unchanged—11 members total):

- 4 members who represent different geographic regions of Texas appointed by the governor, including 2 locally elected rural city or county officials or city or county employees involved in rural development and 2 public members residing in a rural city or county
- 3 public members appointed by the governor from a list of nominees submitted by the lieutenant governor
- 3 public members appointed by the governor from a list of nominees submitted by the speaker of the house
- The commissioner of agriculture or the commissioner's designee

Expiration date (unchanged): September 1, 2013, unless continued by the legislature under Chapter 325, Government Code (Texas Sunset Act)

Health Care-Associated Infections and Preventable Adverse Events, Advisory Panel on (Department of State Health Services)

Previous Name: Advisory Panel on Health Care-Associated Infections

Legislation: Senate Bill 203, Section 2; the name change is effective September 1, 2009

Function (revised): Revised to reflect the addition of health care-associated preventable adverse events within the reporting system, the implementation, development, maintenance, and evaluation of which is guided by the advisory panel

Composition (revised—18 members total): Revised to reflect the increase from 2 to 4 in the number of professionals in quality assessment and performance improvement serving on the panel, the removal of the requirement that these professionals be employed by certain health care facilities, and the addition of demonstrated expertise in quality assessment and performance improvement as an alternative to the demonstrated expertise in infection control in health care facilities previously required of the 3 board-certified or board-eligible physicians as a qualification for membership on the panel. Total composition:

- 2 infection control professionals who are certified by the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology and are practicing in hospitals in Texas, at least one of whom must be practicing in a rural hospital
- 2 infection control professionals who are certified by the Certification Board of Infection Control and Epidemiology and are nurses licensed to engage in professional nursing in Texas
- 3 board-certified or board-eligible physicians who:
 - Are licensed to practice medicine in Texas, at least 2 of whom have active medical staff privileges at a hospital in Texas and at least 1 of whom is a pediatric infection disease physician with expertise and experience in pediatric health care epidemiology
 - Are active members of the Society for Healthcare Epidemiology of America
 - Have demonstrated expertise in quality assessment and performance improvement or infection control in health care facilities
- 4 additional professionals in quality assessment and performance improvement
- 1 officer of a general hospital
- 1 officer of an ambulatory surgical center
- 3 nonvoting members who are Department of State Health Services employees representing the department in epidemiology and the licensing of hospitals or ambulatory surgical centers
- 2 members who represent the public as consumers

The commissioner of state health services shall establish the advisory panel, the members of which serve two-year terms.

Expiration date (unchanged): None

Mortgage Industry Advisory Committee (Department of Savings and Mortgage Lending)

Previous Name: Mortgage Broker Advisory Committee

Legislation: House Bill 2774, Section 3; the name change is effective September 1, 2009; the revised composition is effective April 1, 2010

Function (revised): Revised to remove the duties of advising the savings and mortgage lending commissioner with respect to the proposal and adoption of rules relating to continuing education for licensed mortgage brokers and loan officers and to the granting or denying of an application or request for renewal for a mortgage broker license or loan officer license. Advises the savings and mortgage lending commissioner with respect to:

- The proposal and adoption of rules relating to the licensing of mortgage brokers and loan officers, the education and experience requirements for licensing mortgage brokers and loan officers, and conduct and ethics of mortgage brokers and loan officers
- The form of or format for any applications or other documents under the Mortgage Broker License Act
- The interpretation, implementation, and enforcement of that act

Composition (revised):

- **Previous (6 members total):**
 - 4 members, appointed by the savings and mortgage lending commissioner, each of whom must hold a mortgage broker license, be actively engaged in the business of brokering loans at the time of appointment, and have been primarily engaged in the business of brokering mortgage loans for at least two years before the member's appointment
 - 2 members appointed by the Texas Real Estate Commission, each of whom must hold a real estate broker or salesperson license
- **New (6 members total):** Effective April 1, 2010, the committee must include:
 - 3 individuals licensed as residential mortgage loan originators under the Mortgage Broker License Act, one of whom must hold an active real estate broker or salesperson license
 - 3 individuals licensed as residential mortgage loan originators under the Mortgage Banker Registration Act, one of whom must hold an active real estate broker or salesperson license

All members are appointed by the savings and mortgage lending commissioner and must be under the regulatory authority of the Texas Department of Savings and Mortgage Lending, actively engaged in the business of originating, brokering, or funding residential mortgage loans at the time of appointment, and primarily engaged in such business for at least two years before the member's appointment.

Expiration date (unchanged): None

Private Security Board, Texas (Department of Public Safety)

Previous Name: Texas Commission on Private Security

Legislation: House Bill 2730, Section 4.03; the name change is effective September 1, 2009

Functions (unchanged):

- Determines the qualifications of license holders, registrants, endorsement holders, and commissioned security officers
- Investigates alleged violations of the Private Security Act and of board rules
- Adopts rules and general policies necessary to implement the Private Security Act
- Establishes and enforces standards governing the safety and conduct of each person licensed, registered, or commissioned under the Private Security Act

Composition (unchanged—7 members total):

- 4 public members, each of whom is a United States citizen
- 1 licensed private investigator
- 1 licensed alarm systems company
- 1 licensed owner or operator of a guard company

All members are appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the senate.

Expiration date (revised): None (previously scheduled for abolishment September 1, 2009)

Towing, Storage, and Booting Advisory Board (Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation)

Previous Name: Towing and Storage Advisory Board

Legislation: Senate Bill 2153, Section 5; the name change is effective September 1, 2009

Functions (revised): Revised to reflect the addition of vehicle booting to the Texas Towing Act, which is renamed the Texas Towing and Booting Act

- The board provides advice and recommendations to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation on technical matters relevant to the administration and enforcement of vehicle towing and booting regulation, including examination content, licensing standards, and continuing education requirements
- Advises the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation in adopting vehicle storage rules under the Texas Towing and Booting Act

Composition (revised—9 members total): Revised to reflect the addition of a booting company representative:

- 1 representative of a towing company operating in a county with a population of less

than one million

- 1 representative of a towing company operating in a county with a population of one million or more
- 1 owner of a vehicle storage facility located in a county with a population of less than one million
- 1 owner of a vehicle storage facility located in a county with a population of one million or more
- 1 parking facility owner
- 1 law enforcement officer from a county with a population of less than one million
- 1 law enforcement officer from a county with a population of one million or more
- 1 representative of property and casualty insurers who write automobile insurance in Texas
- 1 representative of a booting company

All members are appointed by the presiding officer of the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation with the approval of the commission and serve six-year terms. The advisory board must include representation for each classification of towing.

Expiration date (unchanged): None

Abolished Entities

Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas Scientific Research and Prevention Programs Committee

Legislation: House Bill 1358, Section 16; abolishment is effective June 19, 2009

Function: Reviewed grant applications and made recommendations to the Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas Oversight Committee regarding the award of research, therapy development, and clinical trial grants. Function is transferred to multiple Cancer Prevention and Research Institute of Texas Scientific Research and Prevention Programs committees appointed by the executive director of the institute, to whom the committees make recommendations for submission to the oversight committee.

Composition: 18 members

Disaster Emergency Funding Board

Legislation: House Bill 1831, Section 1.23; abolishment is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Fielded petitions for the purchase of insurance on an agency's behalf from state agencies lacking sufficient funds to insure state facilities against property damage if that coverage is required to qualify for federal disaster assistance funds. Function is transferred to the Texas Division of Emergency Management.

Composition: 5 members

Environmental Education Partnership Fund Board, Texas

Legislation: House Bill 2748, Section 1; abolishment is effective June 19, 2009

Function: Administered the Texas Environmental Education Partnership Fund, which is abolished by this legislation.

Composition: 11 members

Incentive and Productivity Commission, Texas

Legislation: House Bill 874, Section 5; abolishment is effective June 19, 2009

Function: Developed policies, procedures, and recordkeeping measures to administer state employee incentive and state agency productivity programs, which are abolished and renamed, respectively, by this legislation.

Composition: 9 members

Local Government Records Committee (Texas State Library and Archives Commission)

Legislation: House Bill 3756, Section 26; abolishment is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Reviewed and approved records retention schedules and certain proposed rules of the Texas State Library and Archives Commission and advised the commission and the director and librarian on all matters concerning the management and preservation of local government records

Composition: 12 members

Polygraph Examiners Board (Department of Public Safety)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1005, Section 30; abolishment is effective May 27, 2009

Function: Adopted rules and prescribed forms to administer and enforce the Polygraph Examiners Act. Function is transferred to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, assisted by a new Polygraph Advisory Committee. The board continues in existence until January 1, 2010, for the sole purpose of such a transfer.

Composition: 7 members

Private Sector Prison Industries Oversight Authority

Legislation: House Bill 1914, Section 21; abolishment is effective on the date on which the Texas Board of Criminal Justice is designated as the certificate holder for Texas by the federal Bureau of Justice Assistance for purposes of the federal prison enhancement certification program

Function: Provided oversight of the private sector prison industries programs in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice, the Texas Youth Commission, and county correctional facilities. Function is transferred to the Texas Board of Criminal Justice.

Composition: 13 members

Property Tax Appraisal Studies, Technical Advisory Committee on (Comptroller of Public Accounts)

Legislation: House Bill 8, Section 11; abolishment is effective January 1, 2010

Function: Provided expertise to the comptroller of public accounts and reviewed and commented on the comptroller's methodology in conducting certain studies and reviews of appraisal districts. Function is transferred to a new Comptroller's Property Value Study Advisory Committee.

Composition: Unspecified number of members

State Agency Software Portfolio Management Training, Interagency Panel on (Department of Information Resources)

Legislation: House Bill 1705, Section 2.07; abolishment is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Coordinated and maintained a training program to assist state agencies in performing software audits, managing software, and purchasing software and software licenses

Composition: Unspecified number of members

State Community Development Review Committee (Texas Department of Rural Affairs)

Legislation: House Bill 1079, Section 2; abolishment is effective May 23, 2009

Function: Reviewed and approved grant and loan applications to eligible counties and municipalities under the community development block grant program and consulted with and advised the executive director of the Texas Department of Rural Affairs on the grant program's administration. Function is transferred to the executive director.

Composition: 12 members

Tax Professional Examiners, Board of (Comptroller of Public Accounts)

Legislation: House Bill 2447, Section 43; abolishment is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Established standards of professional practice, conduct, education, and ethics for property tax appraisers, assessors, and collectors. Function is transferred to the Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, with assistance from a new Texas Tax Professional Advisory Committee. The board continues in existence until March 1, 2010, for the sole purpose of such a transfer.

Composition: 5 members

Telecommunications Planning and Oversight Council (Department of Information Resources)

Legislation: House Bill 1705, Section 1.08; abolishment is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Developed telecommunications planning and policy for all state agencies in consultation with the Department of Information Resources. Function is transferred to the Department of Information Resources.

Composition: 12 members

Texas-Israel Exchange Fund Board (Department of Agriculture)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1016, Section 3.07; abolishment is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Consulted with the corresponding body in Israel to advise or ratify the choice of projects and programs undertaken by the Texas-Israel Exchange Fund, which is abolished by this legislation. Function is transferred to a new Texas-Israel Exchange Advisory Committee.

Composition: 12 members

Transportation Financing, Study Commission on

Legislation: Senate Bill 1495, Section 41; abolishment is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Studied public policy implications relating to the financing of transportation projects and issued a report summarizing the commission's hearings, studies, findings, and recommendations

Composition: 9 members

Windstorm Building Code Advisory Committee (Texas Department of Insurance)

Legislation: House Bill 4409, Section 44; abolishment is effective June 19, 2009

Function: Advised and made recommendations to the commissioner of insurance on building and maintenance requirements under the plan of operation for the Texas Windstorm Insurance Association. This legislation also creates the windstorm insurance legislative oversight board.

Composition: 10 members

Wine Industry Development Advisory Committee (Texas Department of Agriculture)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1016, Section 4.10; abolishment is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Assisted the commissioner of agriculture in developing the wine industry in Texas. Function is transferred to a new Wine Industry Development and Marketing Advisory Committee.

Composition: Unspecified number of members

Wine Marketing Assistance Program Advisory Committee, Texas (Texas Department of Agriculture)

Legislation: Senate Bill 1016, Section 4.10; abolishment is effective September 1, 2009

Function: Assisted the commissioner of agriculture in establishing and implementing the Texas Wine Marketing Assistance Program. Function is transferred to a new Wine Industry Development and Marketing Advisory Committee.

Composition: 7 members