



81st Legislative Session - TexProtects Bill Scorecard

TexProtects was instrumental in initiating and/or passage of the following legislation during the 81st Legislative Session

Bill	Authors / Sponsors	TexProtects Function	Procedural Maneuvers	Current Status
SB 1064	Senator Watson Representative Rose	TP initiated legislation.	Senate passed and voted out of House Human Services. Amended on to SB 1440	<i>Vetoed by the Governor</i>
	This legislation sets in place a procedure that will allow Child Protective Services to obtain orders in aid of investigation from a judge when it is investigating allegations of abuse or neglect.			
SB 1411 Companion HB 2860	Senator West Representative Dukes <i>(Companion by Dukes)</i>	TP amended to require trauma-informed training for kin caseworkers, foster parents and adoptive parents.	Senate passed and voted out of House Human Services. Amended HB 1151 & SB 2080	<i>Law – Effective 9/1/2009</i>
	This legislation allows for Texas to pull down federal Fostering Connections funds, which will provide financial assistance to kinship providers, funding for special needs adoptions and training for kinship parents.			
SB 1675 Companion HB 1608	Senator Hinojosa Representative Madden <i>(Companion by Madden)</i>	TP initiated legislation.	Passed both chambers. Substituted for HB	<i>Law – Effective 9/1/2009</i>
	This legislation mandates that jury duty service donation forms explain the function of the Child Welfare Boards if a County lists the Board as an option so that jurors are clear that their funds are going to better protect children not to “Child Welfare” which can be misconstrued.			
SB 2080	Senator Uresti Representative McClendon	Contains elements of TP initiated legislation from 79 th (R).	Passed both chambers. And amended onto HB 1041	<i>Law - Effective immediately</i>
	Creates a statewide child abuse task force to establish a strategy for reducing child abuse and neglect and improving child welfare.			
HB 1041	Representative Parker Senator West	TP greatly assisted w/ passage.	Passed both chambers	<i>Law - Effective immediately</i>
	This legislation requires each school district to adopt and implement a policy addressing sexual abuse of children. The bill requires the policy to focus on increasing teacher, student, and parent awareness of sexual abuse warning signs, how to provide assistance and how to address intervention measures.			
SB 1380/ HB 2584 via HB 2236	Representative Moody Senator Hinojosa	TP amended to include child victims. (Similar to HB 2584 by Hartnett and SB 1380 by Shapiro)	Passed both chambers.	<i>Law – Effective 9/1/2009</i>
	This legislation provides that child victims and victims of domestic violence have the right to have a court consider the impact that a continuance may have on them and upon request to have the court state the reason for the continuance or postponement of a trial.			

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HB 3076	Representative Deshotel Senator West	TP greatly assisted w/ passage.	Passed both chambers	<i>Law - Effective immediately</i>
	This legislation expands the parenting and paternity awareness program used in the health curriculum for public schools to middle or junior high students and allows for an optional expanded curriculum to include parenting skills, including child abuse and neglect prevention, child development and relationship skills.			
HB 3751 <i>Companion</i> SB 1381	Representative Gallego Senator Shapiro <i>(Companion by Shapiro)</i>	TP initiated legislation.	Passed both chambers	<i>Law – Effective 9/1/2009</i>
	This legislation requires that there be a mandatory no contact order between the perpetrator and the child victim as a condition of the perpetrator’s bond.			
SB 2159	Senator Shapiro	TP initiated legislation.	TP requested legislation be held – Filed for strategic purposes. Rider allowing for expansion passed.	<i>Held</i>
	This legislation would have expanded the number of families beyond 2,000 that can be served by the Nurse Family Partnership Program. However, we learned we did not need the bill: The rider covered potential expansion (see below).			
SB1: Nurse Family Partnership	Workgroup: Senator Ogden Senator West Representative Pitts Representative Zerwas	TP greatly assisted in securing full funding for 2,000 families	Senator Shapiro and TexProtects ensured that NFP was a #1 priority to HHSC, Legislative Leadership including key budget writers	<i>Sent to the Governor</i> <i>Rider Passed</i>
	TexProtects led the effort to secure \$17.8 million in funding to serve 2,000 families in 2010-11 a 125% increase over \$7.9 million to serve 900 families last biennium. We also incorporated a rider that will ensure Federal funds that are earmarked for Home Visitation programs flow directly to Nurse Family Partnership, which will fund the provision of services to well beyond 2,000 families.			

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SB 1: DFPS Budget	Workgroup: Senator Ogden Senator West Representative Pitts Representative Zerwas	TP greatly assisted in securing critical exceptional line items	DFPS budget was the last Article II budget considered when budget writers discovered a \$1Bil.Medicaid shortfall: DFPS was on the list for cuts. TP advocated fiercely to maintain exceptional item funds	<i>Sent to the Governor</i>
	Total All Funds Biennium- \$109.0 million Total FTEs – 298.6 for FY 10 and 323.6 for FY 11 +4% vs. 2008-09 biennium This funding adds \$28 million to meet Federal standards of contact with children: 160 additional Conservatorship workers and an additional 118 FBSS (family based safety services); \$15 million for kinship care assistance and special needs adoption; \$2mil. for additional State Wide Intake to maintain Child Abuse reporting Hold times to 11 minutes: Small increases in technology and \$4.5 million in total new Prevention Funds; nominal increase in foster care rates and more.			
SB 285	Senator Nelson	TP initiated legislation.	Held in Senate Criminal Justice. Other vehicles identified for amendment – SB 786 & SB 69 failed to come to the House floor.	<i>Failed to Pass</i>
	This legislation would have enhanced the penalty when a perpetrator violates a restraining order in cases where the perpetrator is removed from the household instead of the child. Additionally, a TexProtects amendment would have added language that would have required training of CPS caseworkers and allow for local joint training programs for law enforcement officials, members of the judiciary and the legal community.			
HB 788	Senator Nelson	TP initiated legislation.	Senate passed – House Human Services failed to vote out.	<i>Failed to Pass</i>
	This legislation would have expanded mandatory reporting to include a person who believes that a child “may be” adversely affected by abuse or neglect. The reporter would no longer have to know that the child “has been” adversely affected.			
SB 1734 Companion HB 4622	Senator Uresti (Companion Hartnett)	TP initiated legislation.	At Senate hearing pulled down bill and requested an interim study	<i>Failed to Pass</i>
	This legislation would have implemented a "hire ahead" program for the timely replacement of caseworkers in metropolitan regions where turnover rates exceed 20%. It allowed the department to temporarily hire beyond their FTE cap.			