



# Senate Health and Human Services Testimony

## Senate Bill 355 by West

### March 5, 2019

Pamela McPeters

Vice President of Public Affairs

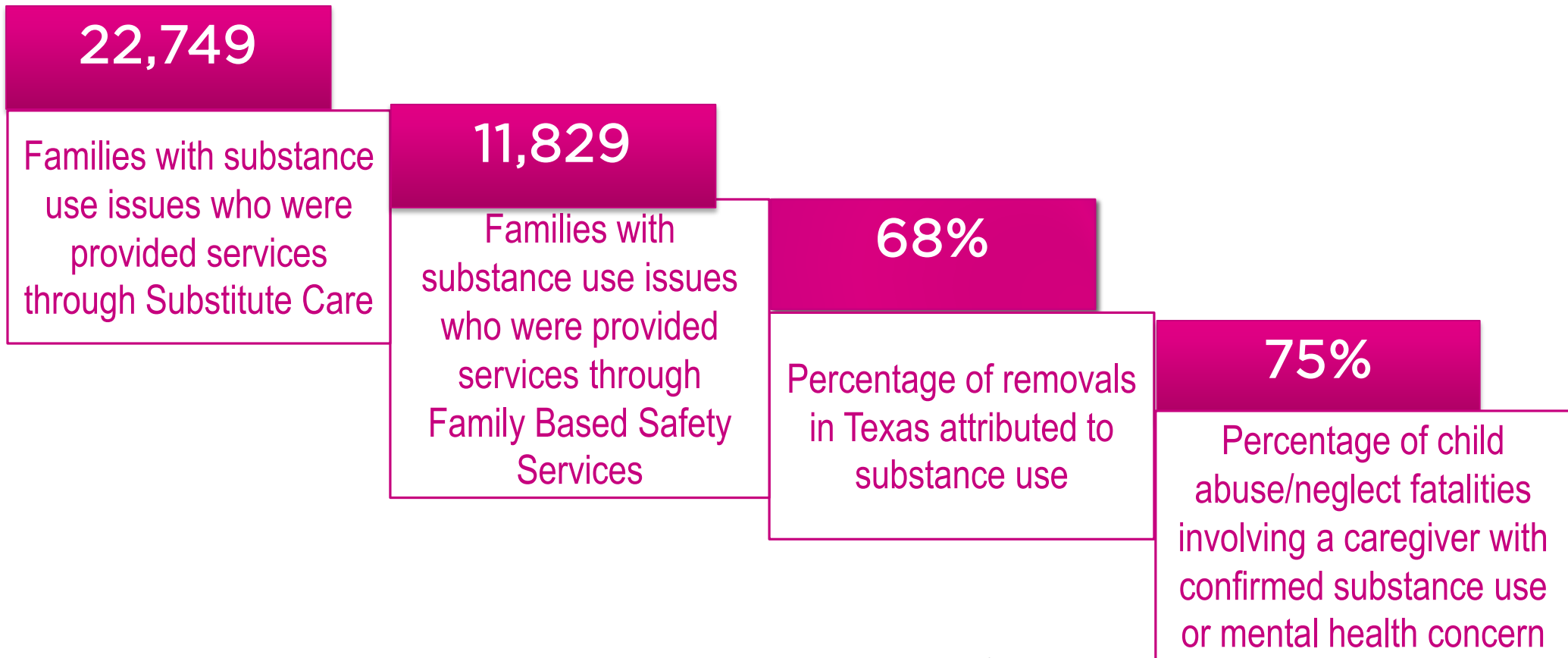
TexProtects

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“If we have any serious hope of stemming the ever-increasing demand for foster care; of committing ourselves to strengthening families’ capacity to care for their own children rather than committing to recruiting more and more foster homes; to reducing the numbers of children traumatized by abuse, neglect and family separation; and of breaking inter-generational cycles of trauma and maltreatment, we have to put our money and our efforts further up the river before families go over the first waterfall.’

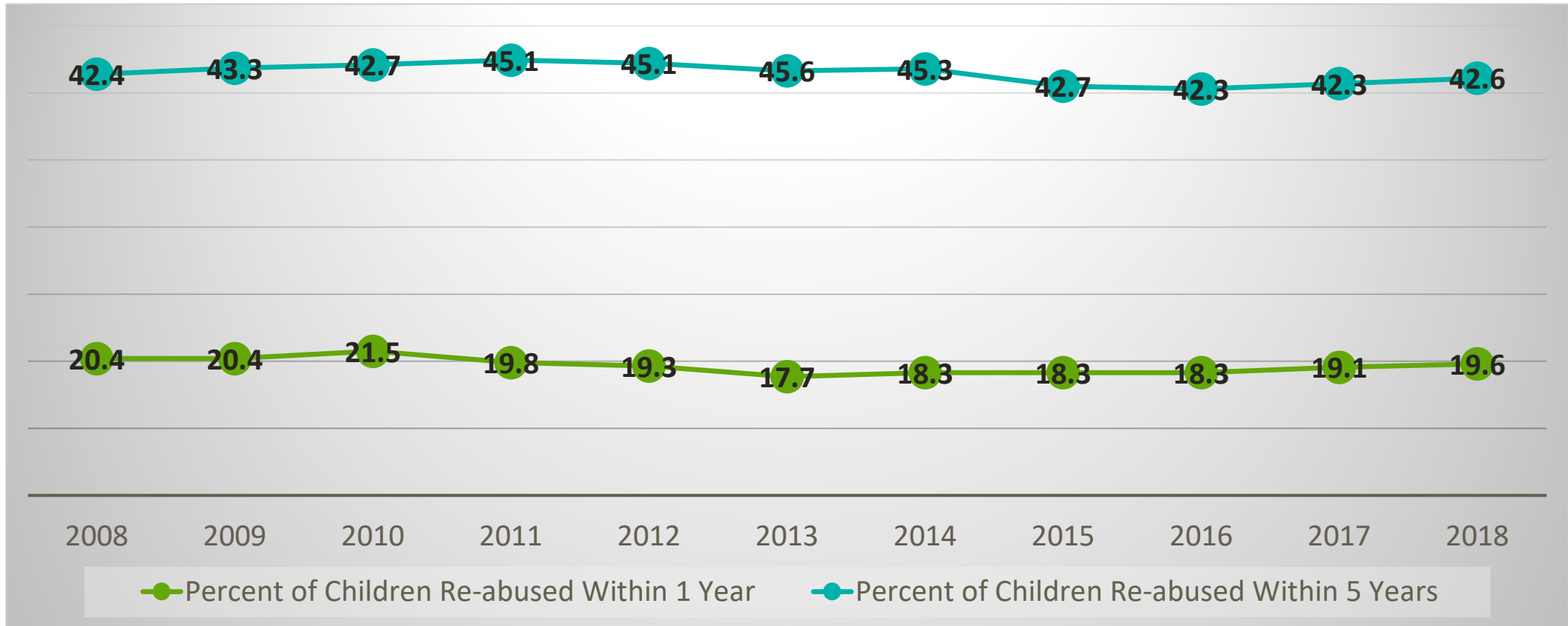
Jerry Milner - Associate Commissioner of the Children’s Bureau,  
and the Acting Commissioner for the Administration on Children,  
Youth and Families

# Impacts of Mental Health and Substance Use Challenges (2017)



Source: House Select Committee on Opioids and Substance Use Report 85<sup>th</sup> Interim

# Family Preservation Outcomes: Children Confirmed as Victims after Services



Source: Department of Family and Protective Services

# Costs of Child Maltreatment

	NUMBER IN 2017	COST OF EACH	TOTAL COST 2017
<b>Confirmed Victims</b>	63,657	\$830,928	<b>\$52.9 billion</b>
<b>Fatalities</b>	172	\$16,615,186	<b>\$2.9 billion</b>
<b>Entries into Foster Care</b>	19,782	\$32,904	<b>\$650.9 million</b>
<b>Families in FBSS</b>	23,460	\$3,868	<b>\$90.7 million</b>
<b>Investigations</b>	<b>174,740</b>	<b>\$1,403</b>	<b>\$245.2 million</b>

Lifetime cost per confirmed victim and child maltreatment fatality based on Peterson, C., Florence, C., & Klevens, J. (2018). The economic burden of child maltreatment in the United States, 2015. Child Abuse and Neglect, 86, 178-183.; Cost for foster care, FBSS and Investigations based on Department of Family and Protective Services (2018). Prevention Taskforce Report

*PREVENTING 3% OF REMOVALS (593) WOULD SAVE UPWARDS OF \$20.3 MILLION.*

DFPS 2018 PREVENTION TASK FORCE REPORT

# Family First Prevention Services Act



## Who is eligible?

- Families with children who are “at imminent risk for entering foster care,” as defined by the state
- Children in foster care who are pregnant or parenting

*Services are available for a maximum of 12 months per child and family, unless the child is again identified as “at risk” of entering foster care.*

# Family First Programs in Clearinghouse

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## Mental health:

- *Trauma-Focused Cognitive Behavioral Therapy*
- *Parent Child Interaction Therapy*
- *Functional Family Therapy*

## Substance use:

- *Motivational Interviewing, Multisystemic Therapy,*
- *Families Facing the Future,*
- *Methadone Maintenance Therapy*

## Parenting skills:

- *Nurse-Family Partnership*
- *Parents as Teachers,*
- *Healthy Families America*

# Support SB 355 by West:

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Improve coordination and effectiveness of services for children at risk of entering foster care:

- Develop and implement a strategic plan to leverage federal funds
- Integrate evidence-based and trauma informed mental health services, substance use prevention and treatment, and in-home parent programs



# Contact Us

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