

CHAPTER 189

S.B. No. 827

AN ACT

relating to authorization for the Texas Employment Commission to provide information and technical assistance regarding child day care for public and private employees.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Chapter 16, Title 83, Revised Statutes, is amended by adding Article 5221g-1 to read as follows:

Art. 5221g-1. EMPLOYEE CHILD DAY CARE BENEFITS

Sec. 1. DEFINITIONS. In this Act:

- (1) "Commission" means the Texas Employment Commission.
- (2) "Committee" means the Texas Employment Commission's Child Day Care Advisory Committee.
- (3) "Clearinghouse" means the Texas Employment Commission's state child care resource clearinghouse.

Sec. 2. CHILD DAY CARE AS AN EMPLOYEE BENEFIT. The Texas Employment Commission is authorized to develop expertise and provide technical assistance to state agencies and to private and public employers regarding options for offering child day care as an employee benefit. Areas of technical assistance may include: federal tax incentives for employers and employees; cafeteria benefit plans that include day care; on-site, contract, and voucher system options for providing day care; and any other areas designated by the commission.

Sec. 3. CHILD DAY CARE ADVISORY COMMITTEE. (a) The commission is authorized to establish a Child Day Care Advisory Committee for the purpose of advising the commission on child day care initiatives for public and private employers and employees, on options for including day care as a state employee benefit, and on any other employment-related day care issues as determined by the commission.

(b) The committee may consist of up to 12 members and shall consist of corporate, consumer, and provider representatives from both the public and private sectors. Members will be appointed by the administrator of the commission.

(c) The commission is authorized to pay travel and per diem expenses necessarily incurred by committee members in performance of their duties under this Act. These expenses shall be paid in accordance with regulations of the commission from the Unemployment Compensation Special Administration Fund No. 165 or from any other special grants which may be received for this purpose. The committee members shall otherwise serve without pay, and service on the committee shall not constitute state employment for any purpose.

Sec. 4. STATE CHILD CARE RESOURCE CLEARINGHOUSE. (a) The commission is authorized to serve as the state child care resource clearinghouse and to provide technical assistance and information regarding child day care to local businesses and individuals through the commission's local offices.

(b) Child care materials published by state agencies may be deposited with the commission for distribution to employers, to job applicants, and to other interested persons through the commission's local offices.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 1987.

SECTION 3. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended.

Passed the Senate on May 1, 1987, by a viva-voce vote. Passed the House on May 15, 1987, by a non-record vote.

Approved May 27, 1987.

Effective Sept. 1, 1987.