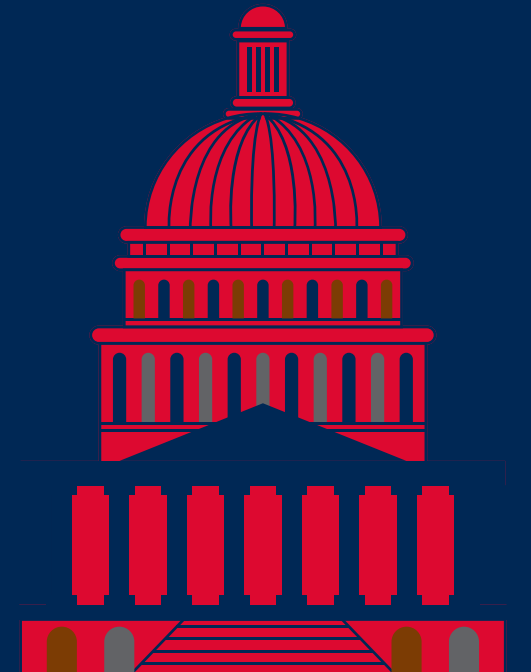


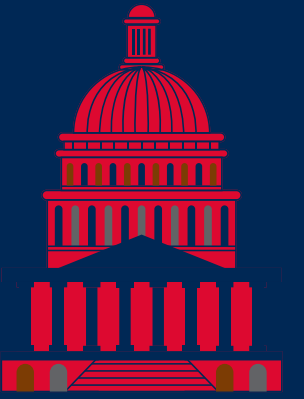
TEXAS CASA



88TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATE



AGENDA

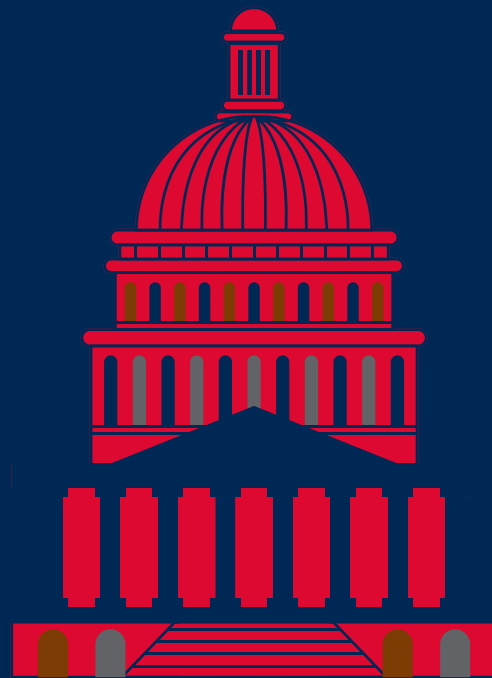


Welcome & Introductions

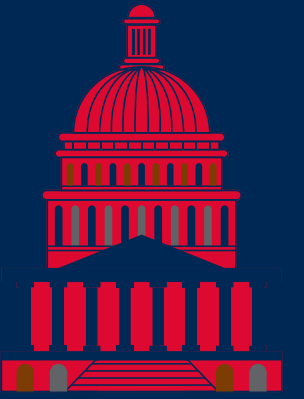
- Overview of 88th Legislative Session
- Funding Outcomes
- Significant Child Welfare Legislation
- Legislation Impacting CASA
- Community-Based Care Update



OVERVIEW OF THE 88TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION



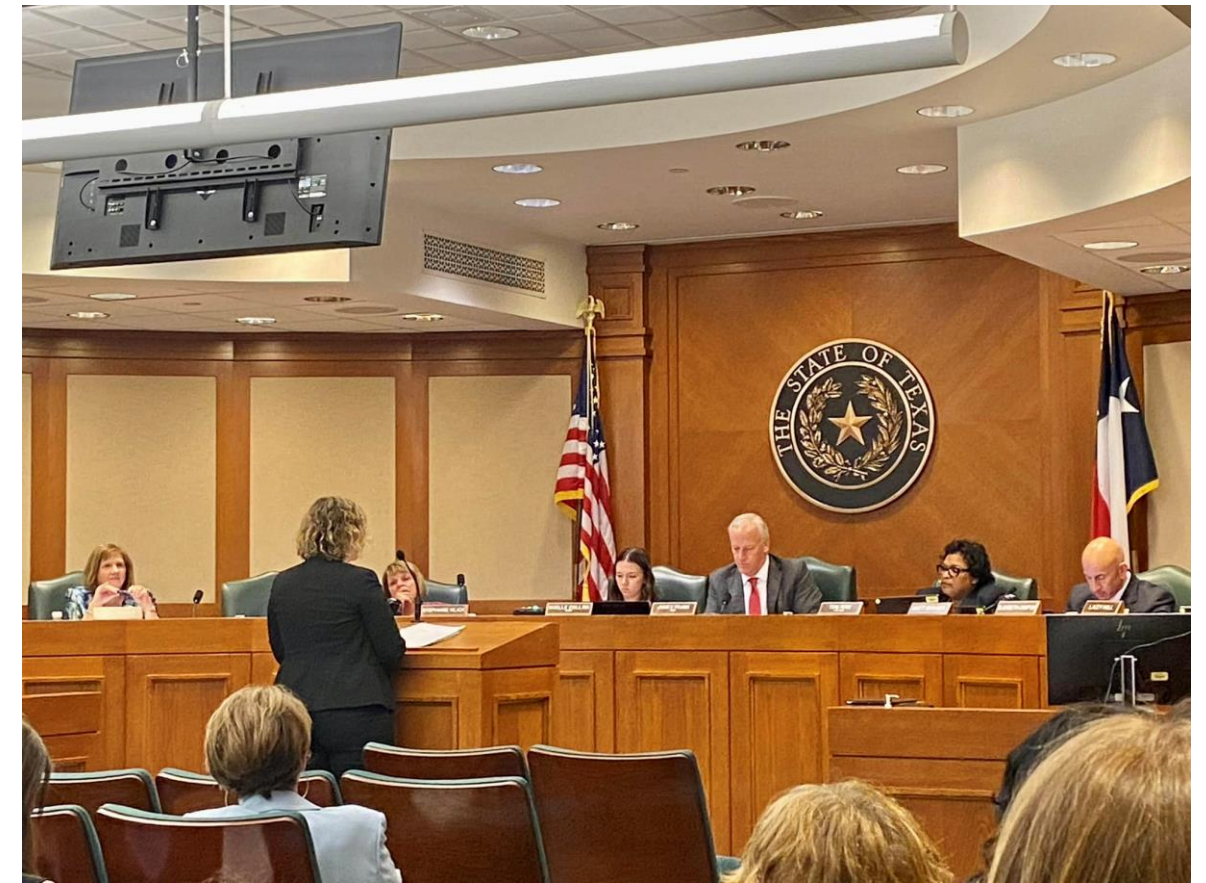
OVERVIEW OF THE 88TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION



Session Statistics

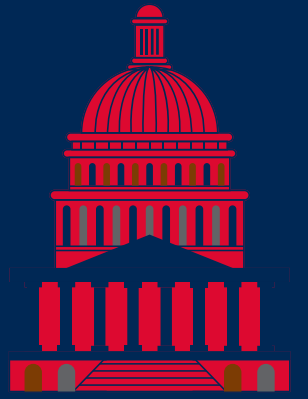
Texas CASA:

- Tracked over 438 bills
- Testified before 11 committees
- Registered in support of 76 bills



Overall, 58 of the bills Texas CASA was tracking passed

OVERVIEW OF THE 88TH LEGISLATIVE SESSION



Session Statistics

CASA Day at the Capitol:

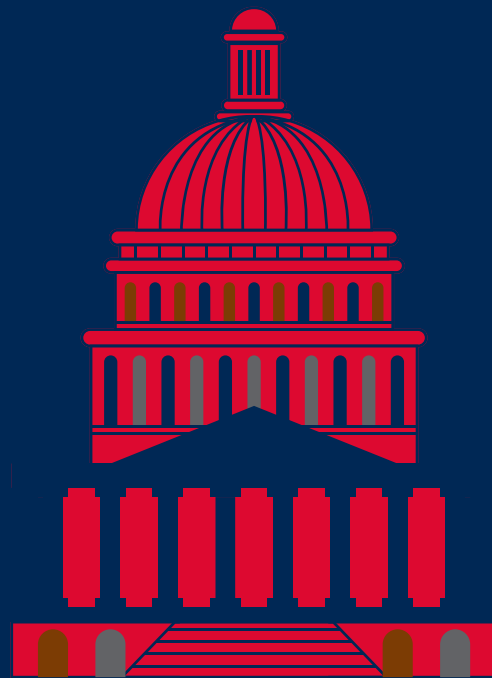
- Over 280 CASA staff and volunteers attended
- 48 local CASA programs were represented



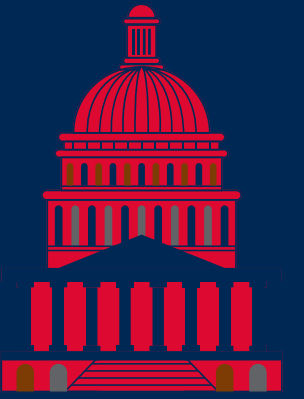
CASA Legislative Advocacy Teams:

- Participated in over 145 meetings with legislative offices
- Responded to 92 Action Alerts

FUNDING OUTCOMES



CASA FUNDING OUTCOMES



HB 1:

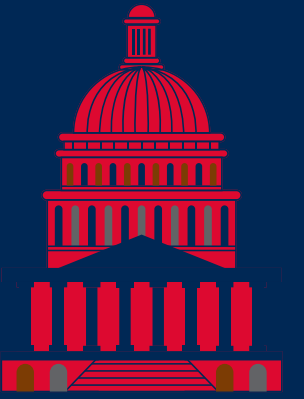
- Continued CASA funding from the Health & Human Services Commission of \$31.9M for 2024-2025
- Continued funding for Collaborative Family Engagement at DFPS of \$643,600 for 2024-2025



SB 30:

- The supplemental funding bill included Victims of Crime (VOCA) funding of \$115M to address the VOCA shortfall; this is just a 2-year fix

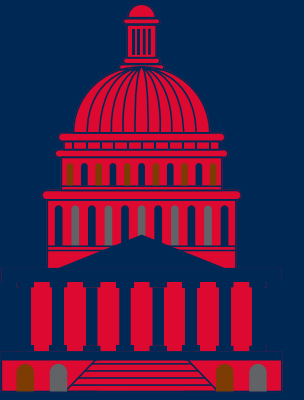
DFPS FUNDING OUTCOMES



Largest funding increase in agency history:

- **Dedicated funding to help address mental health needs of children and youth in care**
 - **New youth mobile crisis teams (housed at HHSC)**
 - **New team of 5 at State Office to focus on mental health needs of kids in care**
 - **20 new inpatient hospital beds dedicated for kids in care**
 - **New Intensive Psychiatric Stabilization Program**
 - **3 locations, 90-day step-down from hospital stay, 34 beds**

DFPS FUNDING OUTCOMES

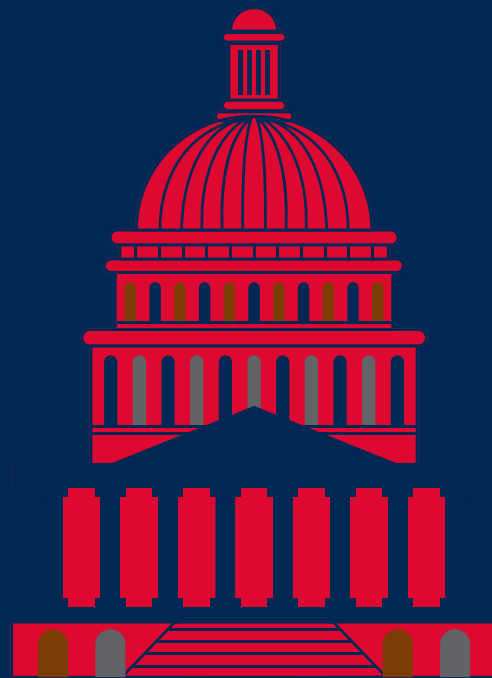


Largest funding increase in agency history:

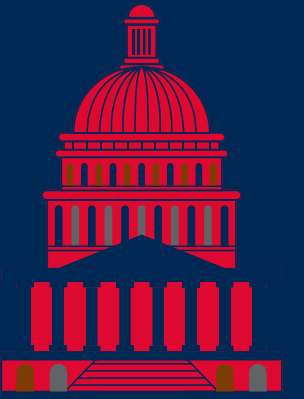
- **New supports for kinship caregivers**
 - **Funding to help SSCCs to provide mental health support for kinship caregivers**
 - **Funding to offset costs associated with kinship caregivers getting licensed**
 - **Funding for concrete supports for kinship caregivers**



SIGNIFICANT CHILD WELFARE LEGISLATION



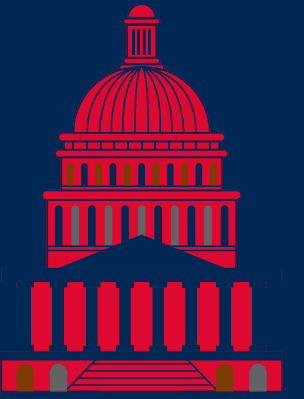
SIGNIFICANT CHILD WELFARE LEGISLATION



HB 730 by Representative Frank

- **Omnibus bill**
- **Puts timeframes into law for Parental Child Safety Placements (limited to 90 days total before court involvement is required)**
- **Requires additional data collection on Parental Child Safety Placements and Court-Ordered Services Cases**
- **Limits the use of ex-parte hearings**

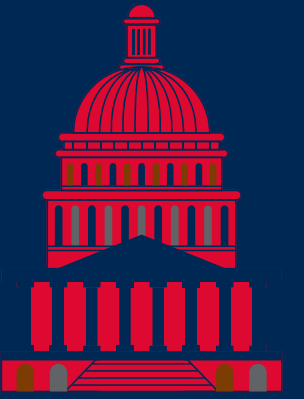
SIGNIFICANT CHILD WELFARE LEGISLATION



HB 730 by Representative Frank

- **Requires notification of rights at the first contact prior to an interview with an alleged perpetrator, parent or other adult in the home**
- **Notification of rights form must be signed and documented in IMPACT**
- **No new rights are granted but there is some concern about the impact of a more “Miranda-style” reading of rights will have on investigations**

SIGNIFICANT CHILD WELFARE LEGISLATION

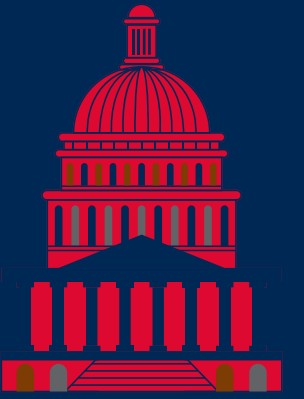


HB 793 by Representative Noble

- **Allows parents to choose their own service provider for their court-ordered services (if the provider is licensed and qualified)**
- **Requires DFPS to reimburse the selected provider for their services**



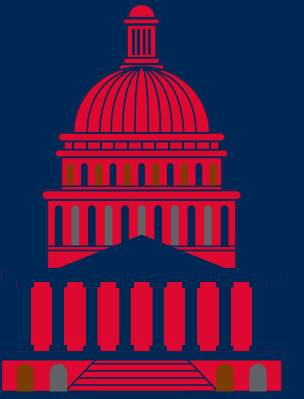
SIGNIFICANT CHILD WELFARE LEGISLATION



HB 1087 by Representative Hull

- **Requires DFPS's petitions to include affidavits describing the agency's reasonable efforts to prevent child removal**
- **Adds third prong for termination**
- **Prohibits the court from ordering termination of the parent's rights unless the court finds that DFPS made reasonable efforts to return the child home throughout the case but a continuing danger in the home prevented the child's return**

SIGNIFICANT CHILD WELFARE LEGISLATION



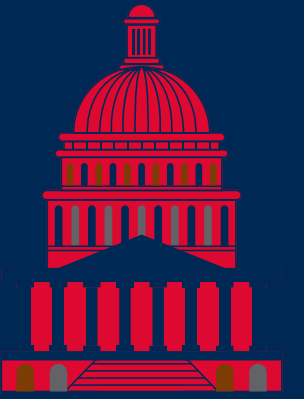
HB 63 by Representative Swanson

- Prohibits anonymous reporting of suspected child abuse or neglect
- All information about a caller's identity will remain confidential and if they do not want to give their information, they will be instructed to call law enforcement



Report Child
Abuse or Neglect

SIGNIFICANT CHILD WELFARE LEGISLATION

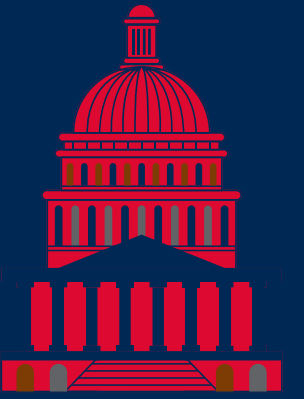


SB 1849 by Senator Kolkhorst

- **Directs the Department of Information Resources to develop the Texas Interagency Reportable Conduct Search Engine**
- **Centralized data registry between:**
 - **Texas Education Agency**
 - **Texas Juvenile Justice Department**
 - **Health & Human Services Commission**
 - **Department of Family & Protective Services**



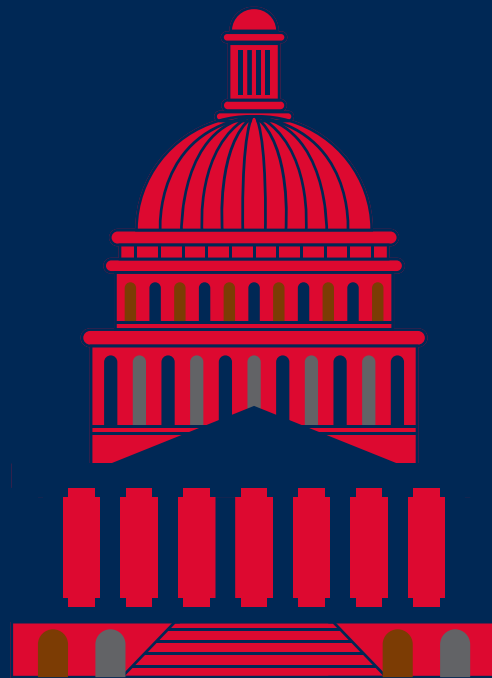
SIGNIFICANT CHILD WELFARE LEGISLATION



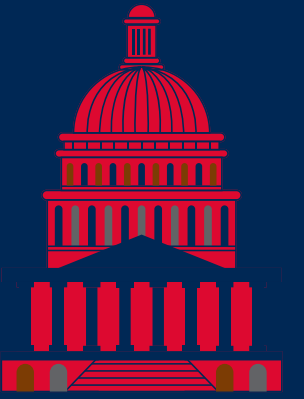
Other legislation to know

- **SB 1379 by Senator Parker**
 - **Creates a Foster Youth Financial Program pilot**
- **HB 3765 by Representative Bucy**
 - **Requires DFPS to maintain a supply of luggage for kids**
- **HB 4233 by Representative Zweiner**
 - **Requires foster caregivers for kids over age 10 to receive training on runaway prevention**

LEGISLATION IMPACTING CASA



LEGISLATION IMPACTING CASA

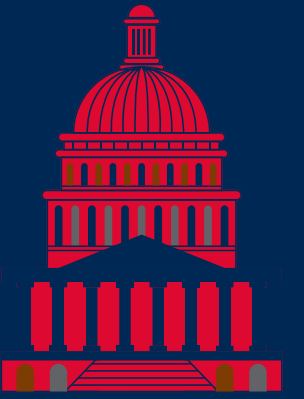


SB 1930 by Senator Kolkhorst

New requirements when a child is placed in or referred to an RTC for placement

- **The court must determine:**
 - **If the child's needs can be met in a family setting**
 - **If the placement can meet the child's needs and goals**
- **The court can review all of the child's documents to make these findings**

LEGISLATION IMPACTING CASA

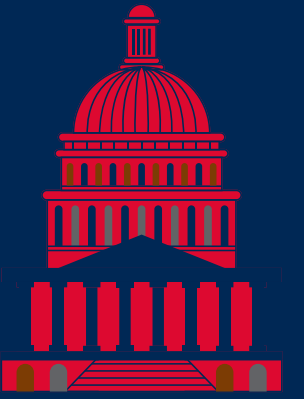


SB 1930 by Senator Kolkhorst

New requirements when a child is placed in or referred to an RTC for placement

- **The AAL & GAL must:**
 - **Ask the child about their opinions & concerns regarding placement**
 - **Review information to ensure the placement is appropriate to meet the child needs**

LEGISLATION IMPACTING CASA



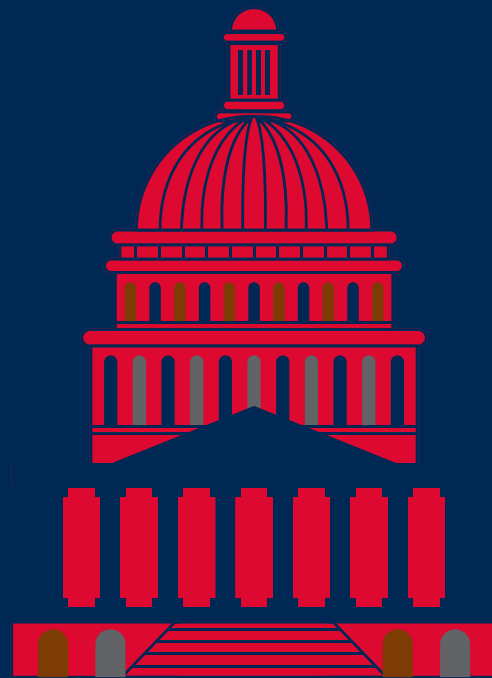
SB 1930 by Senator Kolkhorst

New powers when a child is placed in or referred to an RTC for placement

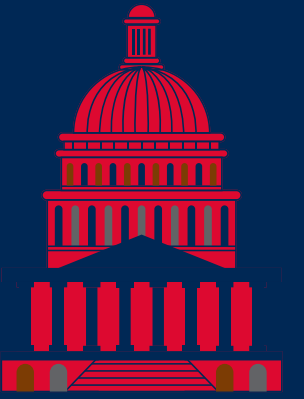
- **The AAL & GAL may:**
 - **Request a placement conference**
 - **Participate in any conferences conducted by DFPS or the child's treatment team**



COMMUNITY-BASED CARE UPDATE



COMMUNITY-BASED CARE UPDATES

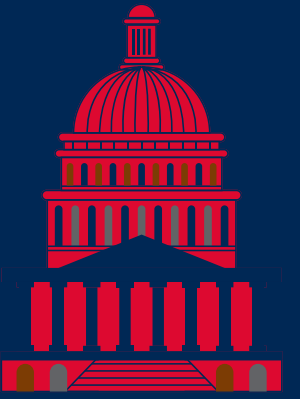


The 88th Legislature funded the expansion of CBC into 5 additional areas:

- Region 6A—Harris County
- Region 6B—Bay Area/Montgomery County
- Region 8A—Bexar County
- Region 10—El Paso
- Region 3W—Metroplex West (remaining 3 counties)

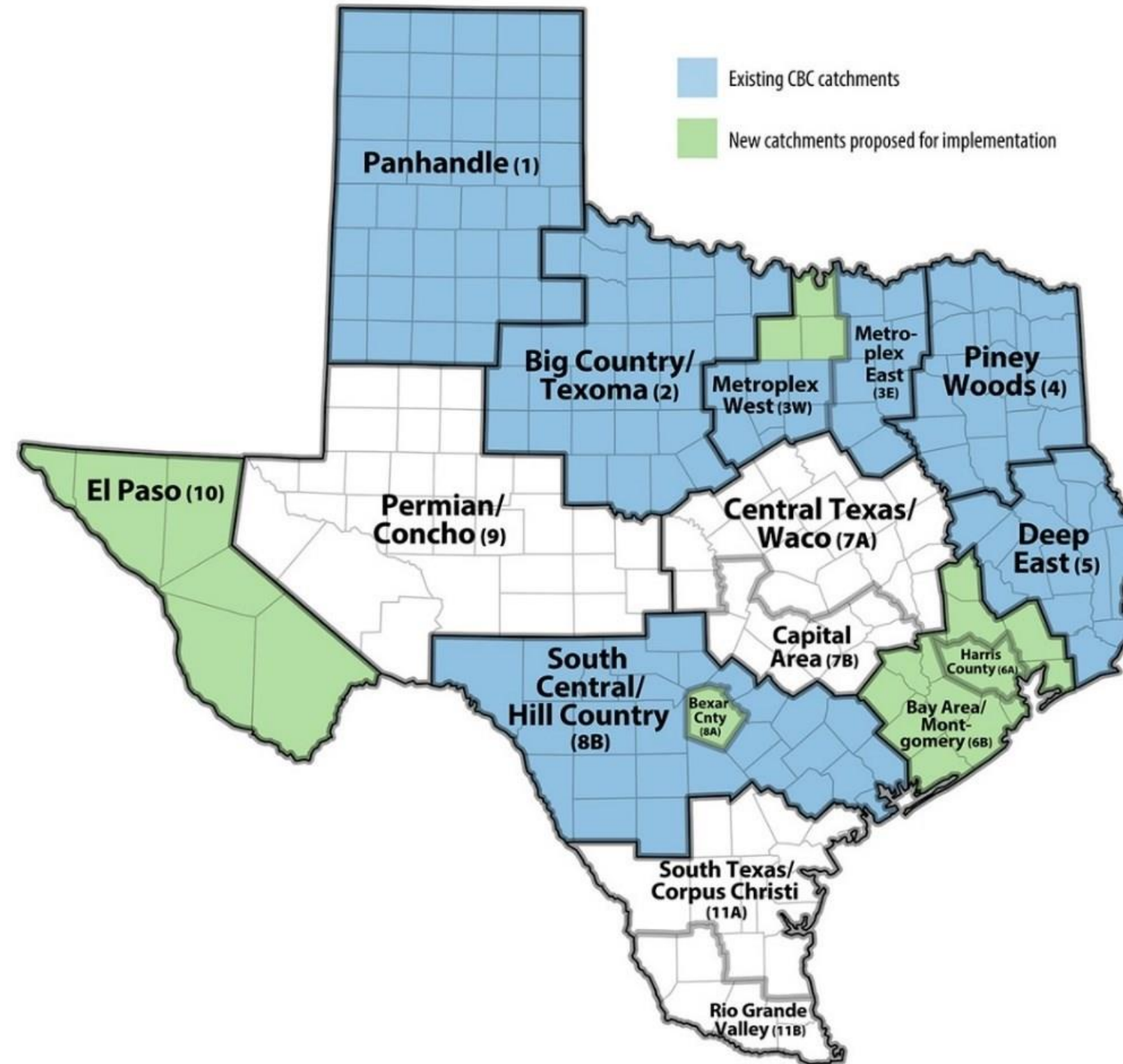
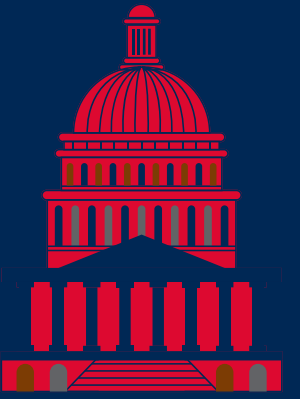


COMMUNITY-BASED CARE UPDATES



Region	Contractor	Contract Awarded	Stage I Live	Stage II Live
Region 3W Metroplex West	Our Community Our Kids	12/16/2013	9/1/2014	3/1/2020
Region 2 Big Country & Texoma	2INgage	5/4/2018	12/1/2018	6/1/2020
Region 1 Panhandle	Saint Francis Ministries	6/13/2019	1/1/2020	3/4/2022
Region 8B South Central & Hill Country	Belong	3/29/2021	10/27/2021	10/1/2022
Region 3E Metroplex East	EMPOWER	2/23/2023	Anticipated in 9/23	Anticipated in FY 2024
Region 4 Piney Woods	4Kids4Families	2/23/2023	Anticipated in 11/2023	Anticipated in FY 2024
Region 5 Deep East	Family Care Network	3/15/2023	Anticipated in 10/2023	Anticipated in FY 2024

COMMUNITY-BASED CARE UPDATES



QUESTIONS?

REACH OUT ANYTIME:

publicpolicy@texascasa.org

