

- SUBJECT:** Training for employees and operators of certain child-care facilities
- COMMITTEE:** Human Services — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 8 ayes — Rose, Herrero, Darby, Elkins, Hernandez, Legler, Naishtat, Walle  
0 nays  
1 absent — Hughes
- SENATE VOTE:** On final passage, April 30 — 31-0, on Local and Uncontested Calendar
- WITNESSES:** For — Melanie Rubin, Texas Association for Infant Mental Health;  
(*Registered, but did not testify:* Nancy Chick, Texas Licensed Child Care Association)  
Against — None
- BACKGROUND:** Human Resources Code, ch. 42 establishes state-wide minimum standards for child-care providers. The Department of Family and Protective Services (DFPS) licenses and regulates child-care providers.  
  
Licensed child day-care providers, group day-care homes, and registered family homes provide care for thousands of infants, toddlers, and pre-K children in Texas. Employees of these child-care providers are required to receive eight hours of pre-service training and fifteen hours of annual training. Under current law, anyone can provide this training to child-care employees, whereas the pre-service training provided to massage therapists, air conditioning and refrigeration contractors, and hair stylists may be provided only by licensed instructors.
- DIGEST:** SB 59 would amend Human Resources Code, sec. 42.0421 by providing that required child-care training would have to be targeted appropriately and relevant to the age of the children who would receive care from the individual receiving the training, and would have to be provided by an individual who:

- was an instructor at a public or private high school or college of early childhood development or another relevant course;
- was an employee of a state agency with relevant expertise;
- was a physician, psychologist, licensed professional counselor, social worker, or registered nurse;
- held a credential or possessed documented knowledge relevant to the training the person would provide;
- held an associate's degree in child development, early childhood education, or a related field, or had been awarded a child development associate credential, and had at least two years' experience working in child development or early childhood education;
- was a training provider registered with the Texas Early Care and Education Career Development System's Texas Trainer Registry as mandated by the Texas Head Start State Collaboration Office; or
- was a registered family home care provider, day-care center or group day-care home director in good standing with DFPS, who had demonstrated core knowledge in child development and caregiving, and was only providing training at the home or center in which the provider or director and the person receiving training were employed.

The bill would require that DFPS had not taken any adverse action against the license, listing, or registration of the individual, the home, or center for which the individual was a provider or director during the two-year period preceding the date on which the individual provided the training.

The bill would take effect January 1, 2010.