

SUBJECT: Changing some entities' Sunset review process dates

COMMITTEE: State Affairs — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 9 ayes — Cook, Menendez, Craddick, Frullo, Geren, Harless, Huberty,  
Oliveira, Solomons

0 nays

4 absent — Gallego, Hilderbran, Smithee, Turner

WITNESSES: For — None

Against — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Amanda Vining, Texans Care  
for Children)

On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Ken Levine, Sunset Commission)

BACKGROUND: Unless specifically continued, the Guardianship Certification Board and  
the Interagency Task Force for Children with Special Needs will be  
abolished on September 1, 2015, and the Licensed Court Interpreter  
Advisory Board will be abolished on September 1, 2013.

Unless specifically continued, the board of directors of the Official Citrus  
Producers' Pest and Disease Management Corporation will be abolished  
on September 1, 2021. The agriculture commissioner may discontinue the  
board if he or she determines that it no longer is needed.

DIGEST: HB 2249 would change the Sunset date for the Guardianship Certification  
Board and the Interagency Task Force for Children with Special Needs to  
September 1, 2013, and for the Licensed Court Interpreter Advisory Board  
to September 1, 2019.

The bill would remove the Sunset provision for the board of directors of  
the Official Citrus Producers' Pest and Disease Management Corporation,  
but still allow the agriculture commissioner to order its dissolution.

The bill would take effect on September 1, 2011.

**SUPPORTERS  
SAY:**

HB 2249 would help the Sunset Commission by better grouping Sunset reviews by agency and subject matter. Many health and human services related agencies will be reviewed in 2013, so moving the dates for Guardianship Certification Board and the Interagency Task Force for Children with Special Needs would allow the commission to look at similar reviews during the same time frame.

Changing the Sunset review date would not equate to abolishing an entity. If its continuation were deemed necessary, it would be able to continue its mission.

Moving the review for the Licensed Court Interpreter Advisory Board would help balance the commission's work load.

**OPPONENTS  
SAY:**

The Interagency Task Force for Children with Special Needs was created in 2009 by the 81st Legislature. One of its primary tasks is to develop a comprehensive five-year plan to address issues relating to children with special needs. The task force should not be expected to undergo a Sunset review in the middle of developing this much-needed plan.

**NOTES:**

The companion bill, SB 652 by Hegar, passed the Senate by 31-0 on April 13 and was reported favorably, as substituted, by the House State Affairs Committee on May 6.