



TEXAS
Health and Human
Services Commission

**Senate Committee on
Government Organization:
Interim Charge 1**

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Advisory Committees: Government Code Requirements

Chapter 2110 of the Government Code governs state agency advisory committees and sets parameters for the operation of these committees. Reporting requirements include:

- Annual evaluation of the committee's work, usefulness, and the costs related to the committee's existence, including the cost of agency staff time spent in support of the committee's activities
- Biennial report to the Legislative Budget Board of the information developed in the annual evaluation, to be submitted in conjunction with the agency's legislative appropriations request



Advisory Committees: HHS Agency Process

- The Health and Human Services (HHS) agencies' report and evaluation includes entities covered by Chapter 2110, as well as any entities that require appointment of members by an HHS agency commissioner or for which an HHS agency has lead administrative responsibilities
- Agency staff that provide support to committees are asked to submit information through a standard template, including evaluation questions about:
 - Regular meetings
 - Progress toward one-time and ongoing statutory duties
 - Use of recommendations by agency or legislature
 - Opportunities for consolidation



Advisory Committees: HHS Inventory

The most recent HHS inventory showed that each agency has the following number of advisory committees that meet the criteria for evaluation:

- Department of Aging and Disability Services
 - 7 committees
- Department of Assistive and Rehabilitative Services
 - 5 committees
- Department of Family and Protective Services
 - 7 committees
- Department of State Health Services
 - 49 committees
- Health and Human Services Commission
 - 34 committees

Advisory Committees: HHS Overview

The scope of issues covered by HHS advisory committees is extremely broad.

In general, HHS advisory committees:

- include a combination of stakeholders, advocates, clients, providers and may also involve state agency staff;
- make recommendations to state agencies about the development or adoption of policies;
- provide feedback and suggestions from front-line stakeholders;
- may be statutorily tasked with developing legislative recommendations.



Advisory Committees: 82nd Session

- Each HHS agency will collect information about proposed advisory committees during the upcoming legislative session through common bill analysis questions
- HHS agencies will analyze this information to identify opportunities to consolidate committees, and will present this information to legislators during the session