

Background:

Title IV, Chapter 531, Section 531.0235 of the Texas Government Code requires TCDD, jointly with the Office of Prevention, to prepare a biennial report on the state of services to persons with disabilities in this state. This report is due to the commissioner of health and human services, governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the House of Representatives no later than December 1st of even-numbered years, prior to the beginning of each regular session of the Texas Legislature. Six reports have been submitted to date. In addition to including recommendations to address the specific issues around health and human services delineated in the Government Code, TCDD has tailored each report to focus on an area that significantly impacts persons with disabilities. Key focus areas of previous Biennial Reports were:

- ✓ Overview of Current Services, Supports, and Needs (2000)
- ✓ Special Focus on Personal Assistance Services (2002)
- ✓ Special Focus on Housing (2004)
- ✓ Employment (2006)
- ✓ The state’s allocation of Resources to Provide Long-Term Services and Supports (2008)
- ✓ Representative Profiles of the Needs and Situations of People who are Waiting for Services in Texas (2010)

The Council has also approved funding for specific activities related to development of the Biennial Reports. These have included data collection activities (e.g. direct mail surveys), special focus research (e.g. HSRI *Closing the Gaps* report), and providing assistance for a Legislative Policy Symposium. Related background information is provided in the meeting materials.

<p><u>Public Policy Committee</u></p> <p><u>Agenda Item 8.</u></p>	<p><u>Expected Action:</u></p> <p>The Public Policy Committee will consider the focus of the 2012 Biennial Report and related activities and may provide input and guidance to staff.</p>
<p><u>Council</u></p> <p><u>Agenda Item 16. D.</u></p>	<p><u>Expected Action:</u></p> <p>The Council will receive an update on Public Policy Committee discussion.</p>

BIENNIAL DISABILITY REPORTS

GOVERNMENT CODE

Title IV, Chapter 531, Section 531.0235

Sec. 531.0235. BIENNIAL DISABILITY REPORTS. (a) The commissioner shall direct and require the Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities and the Office for the Prevention of Developmental Disabilities to prepare a joint biennial report on the state of services to persons with disabilities in this state. The Texas Planning Council for Developmental Disabilities will serve as the lead agency in convening working meetings, coordinating and completing the report. Not later than December 1 of each even-numbered year, the agencies shall submit the report to the commissioner, governor, lieutenant governor, and speaker of the house of representatives.

(b) The report will include recommendations addressing the following:

- (1) fiscal and program barriers to consumer friendly services;
- (2) progress toward a service delivery system individualized to each consumer based on functional needs;
- (3) progress on the development of local cross-disability access structures;
- (4) projections of future long-term care service needs and availability; and
- (5) consumer satisfaction, consumer preferences and desired outcomes.

(c) The commission, Texas Department of Human Services, and other health and human services agencies shall cooperate with the agencies required to prepare the report under Subsection (a).