

By: Wu

H.B. No. 689

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the determination of intellectual disability for children in foster care.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

SECTION 1. Section 264.1075, Family Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(b) As soon as possible after a child begins receiving foster care under this subchapter, the department shall assess whether the child has a developmental or intellectual disability. The department may assess a child for a developmental or intellectual disability only once during the period of time that the child receives foster care.

(c) If the assessment required by Subsection (b) indicates that the child might have an intellectual disability, the department shall ensure that a determination of intellectual disability is conducted by an authorized provider before the date of the child's 16th birthday. If the child began receiving foster care after the child's 16th birthday, the determination of intellectual disability must be conducted as soon as possible after the assessment required by Subsection (b). In this subsection, "authorized provider" has the meaning assigned by Section 593.004, Health and Safety Code.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.