

SUPPORT SB 10

BY SENATOR NELSON/REPRESENTATIVE ZERWAS
86TH LEGISLATURE EMERGENCY ITEM

ESTABLISHES THE TEXAS MENTAL HEALTH CARE CONSORTIUM

SB 10 creates a consortium of all state-funded medical schools to leverage their health and mental health expertise for the benefit of the citizens of Texas.



PROVIDES REAL-TIME SUPPORT FOR AT-RISK CHILDREN & YOUTH

SB 10 works with parents and providers to offer telemedicine and telehealth services to connect at-risk children and youth to assessment and care in real-time.



IMPROVES EARLY ACCESS TO TREATMENT IN PRIMARY CARE SETTINGS

SB 10 establishes a network of mental health professionals to consult with pediatricians and primary care providers to help them better care for Texas children with mental health needs, **75% of whom currently receive care in these settings.**

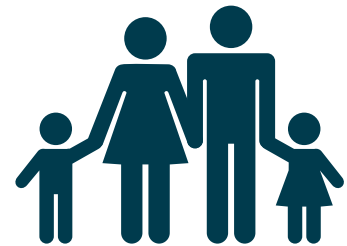


REDUCES TAXPAYER COSTS

Inadequately treated **MENTAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE COSTS TEXAS**

local governments over **\$2 BILLION A YEAR**

in emergency room and justice system costs.

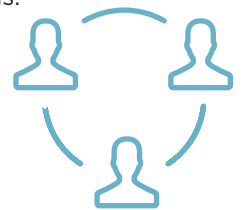


PUTS PARENTS IN CHARGE OF ALL TREATMENT DECISIONS

SB 10 explicitly prohibits mental health care services from being provided to a child younger than 18 unless the parent, legal guardian, or caretaker of the child provides **written consent.**

EXPANDS MENTAL HEALTH WORKFORCE

SB 10 increases medical residency opportunities across Texas in community settings.



HALF
OF ALL
MENTAL HEALTH CONDITIONS
MANIFEST BY
AGE 14

IMPROVES OUTCOMES

Early intervention for mental illness, just like any other illness, significantly improves outcomes, when symptoms are less severe, more treatable, and more readily prevented from escalating to conditions that increase risk. A similar consultation program in another state helped **reduce use of psychiatric medication by 49% for children served.**

SB 10 will make a real difference for Texas children and families affected by mental illness by offering a wider range of care options more quickly, ensuring a brighter future and a stronger, healthier tomorrow for the Lone Star State.

SUPPORTERS OF **SB 10**

