

What is the CPC?

The Children's Policy Council (CPC) is an advisory committee created by the Texas Legislature. The CPC submits a statutorily required biennial report to the legislature with recommendations and has a strong track record of identifying concrete solutions for advancing policy for children with developmental disabilities. ***The report is not vetted by the Commissioner and has become a valuable tool to guide the legislature.*** The CPC has addressed recently more behavioral health issues in their recommendations.

In the Texas Legislature's most recent session, Senate Bill 50 was passed. It expanded the composition of the Children's Policy Council (CPC) to ensure families of children with emotional disturbance and other behavioral conditions are represented.

In the past, families of children with mental health disabilities were not represented on the CPC or any other legislatively authorized advisory committee. Adding representation of families of children with mental health conditions to the membership of CPC has increased opportunities for coordinating mental health services for children across agencies.

The expansion of the CPC's duties to address mental health services for family members caring for children with serious emotional disturbance and other behavioral health conditions will hopefully adequately address the many unmet needs of this underserved population of children.

These children often present complex challenges

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