TEXAS COUNCIL FOR DEVELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES

House Bill (HB) 3947 Rep. Yvonne Davis



Considering The Transportation Needs of People with Disabilities

HB 3947 would require each metropolitan planning organization (MPO), when developing its 10-year transportation plan, to consider the transportation needs of individuals receiving services from the Texas Health and Human Services Commission and the Texas Workforce Commission. Additionally, any MPO requesting financial assistance from the Texas Transportation Commission must submit evidence showing that transportation providers within the MPO's boundaries have considered meeting the transportation needs of those individuals, including by adjusting the providers' fixed routes.



People with disabilities are three times more likely to rely on public transportation than those without disabilities. A community's lack of accessible transit options disproportionately impacts the area's individuals with disabilities, limiting access to jobs, services, and community life. An MPO is a local decision-making body responsible for overseeing the metropolitan transportation planning process. Federal law requires an MPO for each urban area with a population of more than 50,000 people. There are 24 MPOs designated in Texas.



Supporters of the bill include: AARP Texas, Disability Rights Texas, Every Texan, Farm & City, National Association of Social Workers Texas Chapter, RAISE Texas, Texas Association of Goodwills, Texas Network of Youth Services, and United Ways of Texas.



"The impact [of HB 3947] is clear: more people connected to job opportunities, training programs, and community life. Also a stronger workforce, a stronger economy, and a stronger Texas."

Public testimony to the House Transportation Committee on HB 3947, April 2025

