

TEXAS CASA LEGISLATIVE PRIORITIES FOR THE 89TH SESSION

FUNDING PRIORITIES

- Maintain the current appropriation of \$31.9M in the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) bill pattern.
- Maintain the current state appropriation for Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) funds.
- Maintain the current appropriation of \$643,600 for Family Finding/Collaborative Family Engagement in the Department of Family and Protective Services bill pattern.

POLICY PRIORITIES

- Texas CASA supports policies that preserve families, promote family reunification when possible, and minimize the time children spend in foster care.
- Texas CASA supports funding and policies that provide a child access to safe, stable placements in their community that meet their individual need and support their permanency goals.
- Texas CASA supports funding and policies that further support and encourage placement with relative caregivers.
- Texas CASA supports funding and policies that improve services and supports for older youth in foster care, and older youth exiting foster care.

MISSION: To support local CASA volunteer advocacy programs and to advocate for effective public policy for children and families in the child protection system.