

PROCLAMATION

CREATION OF HOUSE SELECT COMMITTEE ON MASS VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND COMMUNITY SAFETY

Pursuant to Rule 1, Section 16(b), Rules of the House of Representatives, I, Dennis Bonnen, Speaker of the House, hereby create the House Select Committee on Mass Violence Prevention and Community Safety.

SECTION 1. MEMBERSHIP, AUTHORITY, AND DURATION

The committee shall have 13 members and shall have the same authority and duties conferred on standing committees under the Rules of the House of Representatives. The committee expires on the date the 87th Legislature convenes.

The following members are hereby appointed to the House Select Committee on Mass Violence Prevention and Community Safety:

Drew Darby, Chair
Poncho Nevárez, Vice-Chair
César Blanco
Giovanni Capriglione
Charlie Geren
Barbara Gervin-Hawkins
Julie Johnson
Brooks Landgraf
Mike Lang
Joe Moody
Geanie Morrison
Four Price
Armando Walle

SECTION 2. JURISDICTION

The committee has jurisdiction over all matters pertaining to programs and policies that ensure the safety of Texas communities by reducing the occurrence and impact of mass violence, including:

- (1) state and local funding for research, program development and implementation, staffing resources, and training;
- (2) preparedness of and collaboration between state and local agencies, including nongovernmental entities, for the prevention of and response to mass violence;
- (3) violence prevention protocols and strategies that contribute to creating and sustaining safe climates in schools and local communities;
- (4) appropriate access to state and local services for communities impacted by mass violence and persons at risk for harming themselves or others; and
- (5) technological capabilities and solutions for threat detection, assessment, reporting, and prevention.

SECTION 3. DUTIES

- (a) The committee shall:
 - (1) examine options for strengthening enforcement measures for current laws that prevent the transfer of firearms to felons and other persons prohibited by current law from possessing firearms;
 - (2) examine impediments and challenges to the timely reporting of relevant criminal history information and other threat indicators to state and federal databases;
 - (3) examine the role of digital media and technology in threat detection, assessment, reporting, and prevention, including the collaboration between digital media and law enforcement;
 - (4) evaluate the ongoing and long-term workforce needs of the state related to cybersecurity, mental health, law enforcement, and related professionals; and
 - (5) evaluate current protocols and extreme risk indicators used to identify potential threats and consider options for improving the dissemination of information between federal, state, and local entities and timely and appropriate intervention of mental health professionals.

(b) To maximize the opportunity for public input, when scheduling hearings during which public testimony will be heard, the committee shall make every effort to coordinate hearing dates with the Senate Select Committee on Mass Violence Prevention and Community Safety.

SECTION 4. REPORTING

(a) The committee shall submit a preliminary assessment to the Speaker within 90 days of the committee's creation and shall submit periodic progress reports to the Speaker thereafter.

(b) The committee shall submit a final report in the same manner as an interim study committee under Rule 4, Section 61, House Rules.

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Dennis Bonnen
Speaker of the House

9-4-19

Date

