

By: Rodriguez

H.B. No. 2641

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to annually adjusting for inflation the maximum amount of
3 a motor vehicle excluded in determining eligibility for the
4 supplemental nutrition assistance program.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 33, Human Resources Code,
7 is amended by adding Section 33.0215 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 33.0215. ANNUAL INFLATION ADJUSTMENT OF MOTOR VEHICLE
9 VALUE EXCLUDED IN DETERMINING SNAP ELIGIBILITY. (a) The executive
10 commissioner by rule shall adjust for inflation in the manner
11 specified by Subsection (b) the maximum amount of the fair market
12 value of the highest valued motor vehicle that may be excluded from
13 the resources of an applicant's household for purposes of
14 determining the applicant's eligibility for supplemental nutrition
15 assistance program benefits, including eligibility determined in
16 accordance with 7 C.F.R. Section 273.2(j).

17 (b) Not later than October 1 of each year, the maximum
18 amount of the fair market value of the motor vehicle described by
19 Subsection (a) that may be excluded from an applicant's resources
20 must be increased or decreased to reflect the percentage difference
21 between:

22 (1) the average index level set by the Bureau of Labor
23 Statistics; and

24 (2) the new vehicles index of the Consumer Price Index

1 for All Urban Consumers published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics
2 or its successor index during the most recent 12-month period
3 ending in June.

4 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies to an
5 initial determination or recertification of eligibility of a person
6 for the supplemental nutrition assistance program under Chapter 33,
7 Human Resources Code, that is made on or after the effective date of
8 this Act.

9 SECTION 3. If before implementing any provision of this Act
10 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a
11 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,
12 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or
13 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
14 waiver or authorization is granted.

15 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.