

By: Campos

H.B. No. 913

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a statewide homelessness data system.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter **KK**, Chapter **2306**, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 2306.911 to read as follows:

Sec. 2306.911. STATEWIDE HOMELESSNESS DATA SYSTEM. (a)

The council shall collaborate with a state agency designated by the council to establish a statewide homelessness data system through which:

(1) state agencies and local governmental entities, including law enforcement agencies, court systems, school districts, and emergency service providers, are able to share information related to individuals experiencing homelessness; and

(2) the entities described by Subdivision (1) are able to access information related to individuals experiencing homelessness in order to connect or refer those individuals to services, including affordable housing opportunities.

(b) In developing the data system, the council and the state agency designated by the council shall:

(1) consult with representatives of the entities described by Subsection (a) to determine the challenges faced by those entities in addressing homelessness and how best to improve the responses to those challenges;

1           (2) enter into data sharing agreements as necessary  
2 for the exchange of information relating to individuals  
3 experiencing homelessness through the data system; and

4           (3) ensure that information stored in the data system  
5 that is confidential under state or federal law is not disclosed.

6           (c) The data system established under this section must:

7           (1) to the extent permitted by a data sharing  
8 agreement, collect data from other homelessness data systems  
9 maintained or operated by a state agency, local law enforcement  
10 agency, or other entity of this state; and

11           (2) collect, aggregate, analyze, and share  
12 homelessness information submitted to the data system with entities  
13 that have access to the system.

14           SECTION 2. Not later than September 1, 2025, the Texas  
15 Interagency Council for the Homeless described by Subchapter [KK](#),  
16 Chapter [2306](#), Government Code, or an entity designated by the  
17 council shall prepare and submit to the legislature and the Texas  
18 Department of Housing and Community Affairs a written report that  
19 evaluates the effectiveness of the statewide homelessness data  
20 system established under Section 2306.911, Government Code, as  
21 added by this Act, in addressing homelessness in this state.

22           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.