

By: West

S.B. No. 759

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of the office of food system security and resiliency in the Department of Agriculture.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 12, Agriculture Code, is amended by adding Section 12.052 to read as follows:

Sec. 12.052. OFFICE OF FOOD SYSTEM SECURITY AND RESILIENCY.

(a) In this section, "office" means the office of food system security and resiliency established by this section.

(b) The office of food system security and resiliency is established as a division within the department.

(c) The office is responsible for food system security and resiliency in this state, including:

(1) coordinating state resources and programs so food access industry professionals can efficiently use resources to meet the needs of this state;

(2) ensuring a food system in this state that is free of disruption;

(3) promoting the growth, manufacture, and processing of agricultural products in this state for farm-to-store and farm-to-table consumption; and

(4) developing regional food system security and resiliency planning by working with other state agencies, counties, municipalities, school districts, and local governments.

1       (d) The office shall, not later than December 1 of each  
2 even-numbered year, make recommendations to the legislature for  
3 legislation that may improve food system security and resiliency in  
4 this state.

5       (e) The office shall manage the Texas food system security  
6 and resiliency planning council if that council is established by  
7 an Act of the 88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023.

8       SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.