

By: Springer

S.B. No. 1804

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the definitions of homeless, homelessness, and variations of those terms.

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

SECTION 1. Section 531.001, Government Code, is amended by adding Subdivision (9) to read as follows:

(9) "Homeless," "homelessness," and variations of those terms used in reference to the housing status of a person mean a person lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence and include:

(A) a person described by 42 U.S.C. Section 11302(a), as that section existed on January 1, 2023;

(B) homeless children and youths described by 42 U.S.C. Section 11434a, as that section existed on January 1, 2023; and

(C) family members of homeless children and youths described by Paragraph (B).

SECTION 2. Section 539.001, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 539.001. DEFINITIONS [~~DEFINITION~~]. In this chapter:

(1) [7] "Department [department]" means the Department of State Health Services.

(2) "Homeless," "homelessness," and variations of those terms used in reference to the housing status of a person have

1 the meanings assigned by Section 531.001.

2 SECTION 3. Section 2306.004, Government Code, is amended by  
3 adding Subdivision (12-b) to read as follows:

4 (12-b) "Homeless," "homelessness," and variations of  
5 those terms used in reference to the housing status of a person have  
6 the meanings assigned by Section 531.001.

7 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.