

1-1 By: Rose, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Uresti) H.B. No. 3571
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 10, 2007;
1-3 May 14, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on Health
1-4 and Human Services; May 18, 2007, reported adversely, with
1-5 favorable Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7,
1-6 Nays 0; May 18, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 3571 By: Uresti

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to a pilot program to facilitate food stamp program
1-11 outreach efforts and eligibility determination processes.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is
1-14 amended by adding Section 531.066 to read as follows:

1-15 Sec. 531.066. FOOD STAMP PROGRAM OUTREACH AND ELIGIBILITY
1-16 DETERMINATION PILOT PROGRAM. (a) The commission shall develop and
1-17 implement a pilot program in the South Texas region under which a
1-18 private retail business that provides services related to the food
1-19 stamp program administered under Chapter 33, Human Resources Code,
1-20 enters into an agreement with the commission to support outreach
1-21 efforts and eligibility determinations for that program.

1-22 (b) Subject to state and federal laws governing the food
1-23 stamp program, an agreement between a private retail business
1-24 participating in the pilot program and the commission may require
1-25 the business to:

1-26 (1) provide informational materials, including
1-27 eligibility guidelines and eligibility redetermination
1-28 information, to the customers of the business and other persons
1-29 regarding the food stamp program;

1-30 (2) perform outreach services, as determined by the
1-31 commission, with respect to the program; and

1-32 (3) provide space at the retail locations of the
1-33 business at which commission staff and contractors of the
1-34 commission may conduct outreach efforts and eligibility
1-35 determinations related to the program.

1-36 (b-1) An agreement between a private retail business
1-37 participating in the pilot program and the commission may authorize
1-38 the business to:

1-39 (1) implement strategies to encourage recipients of
1-40 food stamps who are also Medicaid recipients to engage in healthy
1-41 behaviors; and

1-42 (2) provide incentives to recipients described by
1-43 Subdivision (1) who are children younger than 21 years of age to
1-44 make timely health care visits under the early and periodic
1-45 screening, diagnosis, and treatment program.

1-46 (c) In developing the pilot program, the executive
1-47 commissioner may adopt rules regarding the requirements applicable
1-48 to a private retail business that participates in the program.

1-49 (d) Not later than December 1, 2008, the commission shall
1-50 submit a report to the legislature that includes:

1-51 (1) an evaluation of the pilot program, including the
1-52 program's effects on the food stamp program; and

1-53 (2) recommendations regarding the continuation or
1-54 expansion of the pilot program.

1-55 (e) This section expires September 1, 2009.

1-56 SECTION 2. If before implementing any provision of this Act
1-57 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a
1-58 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,
1-59 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or
1-60 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
1-61 waiver or authorization is granted.

1-62 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

1-63 * * * * *