

By: Lucio, Van de Putte

S.B. No. 556

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of an interagency obesity council.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle E, Title 2, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 114 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 114. INTERAGENCY OBESITY COUNCIL

Sec. 114.001. INTERAGENCY OBESITY COUNCIL. (a) The commissioner of agriculture, commissioner of state health services, and commissioner of education, or a staff member designated by each of those commissioners, shall meet at least once a year as an interagency council to:

(1) discuss the status of each agency's programs that promote better health and nutrition and prevent obesity among children and adults in this state; and

(2) consider the feasibility of tax incentives for employers who promote activities designed to reduce obesity in the workforce.

(b) Not later than January 15 of each odd-numbered year, the interagency council shall submit a report to the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of the house of representatives on the activities of the council during the preceding two calendar years.

(c) A report submitted by the interagency council under Subsection (b) must include:

1 (1) a list of the programs within each agency that are
2 designed to promote better health and nutrition;

3 (2) an assessment of the steps taken by each program
4 during the preceding two calendar years;

5 (3) a report of the progress made by taking these steps
6 in reaching each program's goals;

7 (4) the areas of improvement that are needed in each
8 program; and

9 (5) recommendations for future goals or legislation.

10 (d) A meeting held under this section is not subject to the
11 provisions of the open meetings law, Chapter 551, Government Code.

12 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
13 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
14 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
15 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
16 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.