

By: Gutierrez

H.B. No. 3429

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to certain program and reporting duties of the Texas  
Agricultural Extension Service.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 88, Education Code, is amended by adding  
Subchapter C-1 to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER C-1. TEXAS AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION SERVICE

Sec. 88.251. DEFINITION. In this chapter, "extension  
service" means the Texas Agricultural Extension Service.

Sec. 88.252. PROGRAMS AND PROGRAM REPORTS. (a) The  
extension service shall administer the following programs:

(1) the Expanded Food and Nutrition Education Program  
(EFNEP), which provides nutrition education for economically  
disadvantaged families;

(2) the Better Living for Texans (BLT) program, a  
component of the United States Department of Agriculture's  
Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), which provides  
education programs to food stamp recipients, applicants, and other  
approved audiences to help improve their ability to plan and  
prepare nutritious meals, spend food dollars efficiently, and  
prepare and store food safely; and

(3) other similar programs as determined by the  
extension service.

(b) Not later than December 15 of each even-numbered year,

1 the extension service shall make a presentation and provide a  
2 report regarding each program administered under Subsection (a) to  
3 the commissioner of education, the commissioner of agriculture, and  
4 the commissioner of the Department of State Health Services, and to  
5 any council in which representatives from all three agencies headed  
6 by those officers are members. The extension service shall provide  
7 a copy of each report required by this subsection to the  
8 legislature.

9 Sec. 88.253. CONTRACTS. The extension service may enter  
10 into interagency contracts and agreements and may contract with  
11 local, state, county, federal, and private entities to advance the  
12 objectives of the programs administered under Section 88.252.

13 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
14 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
15 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
16 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
17 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.