

By: West

S.B. No. 1501

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the eligibility of nonprofit organizations that partner with certain schools to receive grants for agricultural projects.

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

SECTION 1. Section 48.001, Agriculture Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 48.001. CREATION. (a) Consistent with this chapter, the department by rule shall develop a program to award grants to public elementary and middle schools located in large urban school districts for the purpose of establishing:

- (1) demonstration agricultural projects; or
- (2) other projects designed to foster an understanding and awareness of agriculture.

(b) The department may award a grant under Subsection (a) to a nonprofit organization that partners with a school described by Subsection (a) to establish a project described by Subsection (a) at the school.

SECTION 2. Section 48.002, Agriculture Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 48.002. ELIGIBILITY. Subject to available funds, a public elementary or middle school, or a nonprofit organization that partners with the school, is eligible to receive a grant under this chapter if the school:

- (1) is located in a school district with an enrollment

1 of at least 49,000 students; and

2 (2) submits to the department, at the time and in the  
3 form required by the department, a proposal for a demonstration  
4 agricultural project that includes:

5 (A) a description of the proposed project;

6 (B) a schedule of projected costs for the  
7 project; ~~and~~

8 (C) a statement of the educational benefits of  
9 the project, including how the project will improve understanding  
10 of agriculture; and

11 (D) if a nonprofit organization is applying for  
12 the grant, a statement from the school that the nonprofit  
13 organization is partnering with the school.

14 SECTION 3. Section 48.004, Agriculture Code, is amended to  
15 read as follows:

16 Sec. 48.004. REPORT. A school or nonprofit organization  
17 that receives a grant under this chapter must report the results of  
18 the project to the department in a manner determined by the  
19 department.

20 SECTION 4. Section 48.003, Agriculture Code, is repealed.

21 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
22 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
23 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
24 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
25 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.