

1-1 By: Ellis S.B. No. 1861
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 11, 2009; March 24, 2009, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Intergovernmental
1-4 Relations; May 1, 2009, reported adversely, with favorable
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0;
1-6 May 1, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1861 By: Gallegos

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

1-10 relating to certain programs and pilot programs administered by the
1-11 Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs.

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

1-13 SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 2306, Government Code, is
1-14 amended by adding Sections 2306.0971 and 2306.0972 to read as
1-15 follows:

1-16 Sec. 2306.0971. SUPPLEMENTAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAM FOR
1-17 CERTAIN WEATHERIZATION-RELATED MEASURES. (a) In addition to the
1-18 Energy Services Program for Low-Income Individuals established
1-19 under Section 2306.097, the department shall establish a program
1-20 that provides financial assistance for residential
1-21 weatherization-related measures that do not qualify for federal
1-22 funds under the weatherization assistance program for low-income
1-23 persons but that, if performed, would allow a person to receive that
1-24 federal assistance.

1-25 (b) The department by rule shall establish eligibility
1-26 criteria for a person to receive financial assistance for
1-27 residential weatherization-related measures described by
1-28 Subsection (a). The criteria must ensure that any
1-29 weatherization-related measures performed will allow a person to
1-30 receive federal assistance under the weatherization assistance
1-31 program. The income criteria must be equivalent to the income
1-32 criteria for a person to receive federal assistance under the
1-33 weatherization assistance program.

1-34 Sec. 2306.0972. WEATHERIZATION PILOT PROGRAM. (a) The
1-35 department may establish a pilot program to study the effectiveness
1-36 of weatherization measures in increasing residential energy
1-37 efficiency for individuals and families of low income.

1-38 (b) If the department establishes a pilot program under this
1-39 section, not later than December 1, 2010, the department shall
1-40 submit a report to the legislature regarding its findings and
1-41 recommendations under the pilot program.

1-42 (c) This section expires September 1, 2011.

1-43 SECTION 2. Subchapter K, Chapter 2306, Government Code, is
1-44 amended by adding Section 2306.260 to read as follows:

1-45 Sec. 2306.260. USE OF CERTAIN FEDERAL ASSISTANCE TO FUND
1-46 PILOT PROGRAMS. The department may fund existing pilot programs or
1-47 create new pilot programs as appropriate using federal supplemental
1-48 appropriations under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of
1-49 2009 (Pub. L. No. 111-5) or any other similar federal legislation
1-50 that is enacted on or after January 1, 2009. This section expires
1-51 December 31, 2011.

1-52 SECTION 3. The Texas Department of Housing and Community
1-53 Affairs shall adopt the rules required by Section 2306.0971,
1-54 Government Code, as added by this Act, not later than December 1,
1-55 2009.

1-56 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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