

By: West  
(Hernandez Luna)

S.B. No. 199

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to agricultural projects in certain schools, including the  
3 eligibility of nonprofit organizations that partner with schools to  
4 receive grants.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

1           (1) is located in a school district with an enrollment  
2 of at least 49,000 students; and

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

6                   (A) a description of the proposed project;

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

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

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

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

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

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 Section 48.003, Agriculture Code, is repealed.

22           SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
23 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
24 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
25 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
26 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.