

By: Laubenberg

H.B. No. 3186

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an annual study and report regarding asset information of certain applicants for certain assistance programs.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 531.0999 to read as follows:

Sec. 531.0999. ASSET INFORMATION STUDY; ANNUAL REPORT. (a)

In this section, "assistance program" means:

(1) the financial assistance program under Chapter 31, Human Resources Code;

(2) the medical assistance program under Chapter 32, Human Resources Code; and

(3) the supplemental nutrition assistance program under Chapter 33, Human Resources Code.

(b) The commission shall collect asset information from a person applying for benefits under an assistance program. Using that information, the commission shall conduct an annual study to determine whether any person applying for benefits in the past year under an assistance program:

(1) possessed financial assets at the time of application that would have disqualified the person for benefits under the assistance program for which the person applied before the effective date of applicable provisions of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (Pub. L. No. 111-148); and

1 (2) qualified for benefits under the assistance
2 program for which the person applied.

3 (c) Not later than March 31 of each year, the commission
4 shall electronically deliver a report on the results of the study
5 conducted under Subsection (b) to the governor and each member of
6 the legislature.

7 (d) A report under this section may consist solely of
8 statistical information and shall not include any personally
9 identifying information of any person applying for benefits under
10 an assistance program.

11 SECTION 2. The Health and Human Services Commission shall
12 deliver the initial report required by Section 531.0999, Government
13 Code, as added by this Act, not later than March 31, 2014.

14 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
15 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
16 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
17 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
18 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.