

By: Raymond

H.B. No. 3401

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a nutrition and wellness education program for certain recipients of certain state benefits.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 531.0995 to read as follows:

Sec. 531.0995. NUTRITION AND WELLNESS EDUCATION PROGRAM.

(a) The commission shall establish an online program to provide a nutrition and wellness education course that promotes healthy eating habits and a physically active lifestyle. The commission shall develop the program in the most cost-effective manner possible by using the Internet and existing nutrition information and educational resources. The program should target individuals receiving benefits under:

(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 work with community-based organizations to encourage individuals receiving benefits to access the information described by Subsection (a).

(c) Not later than January 1, 2015, the commission shall

1 report to the legislature on the program. The report must include:

2 (1) feedback from clients on the effectiveness of the
3 information provided; and

4 (2) any available data on the number of individuals
5 who accessed the information.

6 (d) The executive commissioner may adopt rules to implement
7 this section.

8 (e) This section expires September 1, 2015.

9 SECTION 2. If before implementing any provision of this Act
10 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a
11 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,
12 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or
13 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
14 waiver or authorization is granted.

15 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.