

By: Lucio

S.B. No. 1374

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to requiring that certain strategic plans of certain state
3 agencies include the goals of reducing the incidence of food
4 insecurity, poor nutrition, and diet-related disease in this state.

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

6 SECTION 1. Chapter 12, Agriculture Code, is amended by
7 adding Section 12.00251 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 12.00251. GOALS OF ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY, POOR
9 NUTRITION, AND DIET-RELATED DISEASE; INCLUSION IN STRATEGIC PLAN.

10 (a) The department shall include in the department's strategic
11 plan required under Chapter 2056, Government Code, the goals of
12 reducing the incidence of food insecurity, poor nutrition, and
13 diet-related disease in this state by:

14 (1) increasing access to nutritious foods by persons
15 in this state;

16 (2) maximizing federal funds received under child
17 nutrition programs, including the national free or reduced-price
18 lunch program established under 42 U.S.C. Section 1751 et seq., by
19 increasing:

20 (A) the efficiency of the programs; and

21 (B) access to the programs by persons eligible
22 for the programs;

23 (3) strengthening the department's education
24 initiatives to increase awareness of food and nutrition programs

1 available in this state; and

2 (4) facilitating obesity prevention and diabetes
3 awareness initiatives.

4 (b) The goals required under Subsection (a) must include
5 specific targets for increasing participation in nutrition
6 programs administered by the department.

7 (c) The department shall seek input from food insecurity
8 experts, service providers, and other stakeholders in developing
9 the goals required under Subsection (a).

10 SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 7, Education Code, is
11 amended by adding Section 7.041 to read as follows:

12 Sec. 7.041. GOALS OF ADDRESSING FOOD INSECURITY, POOR
13 NUTRITION, AND DIET-RELATED DISEASE; INCLUSION IN STRATEGIC PLAN.

14 (a) The agency shall include in the agency's strategic plan
15 required under Chapter 2056, Government Code, the goals of reducing
16 the incidence of food insecurity, poor nutrition, and diet-related
17 disease in this state by:

18 (1) increasing access to nutritious foods by persons
19 served by the agency;

20 (2) maximizing federal funds received under child
21 nutrition programs, including the national free or reduced-price
22 lunch program established under 42 U.S.C. Section 1751 et seq., by
23 increasing:

24 (A) the efficiency of the programs; and

25 (B) access to the programs by eligible persons
26 served by the agency;

27 (3) strengthening the agency's education initiatives

1 to increase awareness of food and nutrition programs available in
2 this state; and

3 (4) facilitating obesity prevention and diabetes
4 awareness initiatives.

5 (b) The goals required under Subsection (a) must include
6 specific targets for increasing participation in nutrition
7 programs administered by the agency.

8 (c) The agency shall seek input from food insecurity
9 experts, service providers, and other stakeholders in developing
10 the goals required under Subsection (a).

11 SECTION 3. Section 531.022, Government Code, is amended by
12 adding Subsections (f), (g), and (h) to read as follows:

13 (f) In addition to the goals specified by Subsection (c),
14 the plan must include as goals of the commission, the Department of
15 Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, the Department of Aging and
16 Disability Services, and the Department of State Health Services
17 reducing the incidence of food insecurity, poor nutrition, and
18 diet-related disease in this state by:

19 (1) increasing access to nutritious foods by persons
20 served by the agencies;

21 (2) maximizing federal funds received under the
22 special supplemental nutrition program for women, infants, and
23 children and the supplemental nutrition assistance program by
24 increasing the efficiency of the programs;

25 (3) strengthening each agency's education initiatives
26 to increase awareness of food and nutrition programs available in
27 this state; and

1 (4) facilitating obesity prevention and diabetes
2 awareness initiatives.

3 (g) The goals required under Subsection (f) must include
4 specific targets for increasing participation in nutrition
5 programs administered by the commission and other agencies
6 described by that subsection.

7 (h) The executive commissioner shall seek input from food
8 insecurity experts, service providers, and other stakeholders in
9 developing the goals required under Subsection (f).

10 SECTION 4. In the first strategic plan under Chapter 2056,
11 Government Code, issued after the effective date of this Act:

12 (1) the Department of Agriculture shall, using
13 existing funds, include in the plan the goals and methods of
14 implementing the goals required by Section 12.00251(a),
15 Agriculture Code, as added by this Act; and

16 (2) the Texas Education Agency shall, using existing
17 funds, include in the plan the goals and methods of implementing the
18 goals required by Section 7.041(a), Education Code, as added by
19 this Act.

20 SECTION 5. The executive commissioner of the Health and
21 Human Services Commission shall, using existing funds, include the
22 goals and methods of implementing those goals specified by Section
23 [531.022](#)(f), Government Code, as added by this Act, in the first
24 biennial update of the coordinated strategic plan for health and
25 human services required by Section [531.022](#), Government Code, as
26 amended by this Act, that is required after the effective date of
27 this Act.

1 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.