

By: Garcia

S.B. No. 1476

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to strategic plan goals to address hunger, food,
3 nutrition, physical activity, and obesity in this state.

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

5 SECTION 1. Chapter 12, Agriculture Code, is amended by
6 adding Section 12.00252 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 12.00252. STRATEGIC PLAN GOAL: ADDRESSING HUNGER,
8 FOOD, NUTRITION, PHYSICAL ACTIVITY, AND OBESITY. The department
9 shall include in the department's strategic plan required under
10 Chapter 2056, Government Code, a goal of addressing hunger, food,
11 nutrition, physical activity, and obesity in this state by:

12 (1) increasing access to nutritious foods by persons
13 in this state;

14 (2) increasing access to and participation in the
15 national free or reduced-price lunch program established under 42
16 U.S.C. Section 1751 et seq. by persons eligible for the program;

17 (3) strengthening the department's education
18 initiatives to increase awareness of food and nutrition programs in
19 this state and of the benefits of physical activity by using public
20 service announcements; and

21 (4) facilitating obesity prevention and diabetes
22 awareness initiatives.

23 SECTION 2. Section 7.021, Education Code, is amended by
24 adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

1 (d) The agency shall include in the agency's strategic plan
2 required under Chapter 2056, Government Code, a goal of addressing
3 hunger, food, nutrition, physical activity, and obesity in this
4 state by:

5 (1) increasing access to nutritious foods by persons
6 served by the agency;

7 (2) increasing access to and participation in the
8 national free or reduced-price lunch program established under 42
9 U.S.C. Section 1751 et seq. by eligible persons served by the
10 agency;

11 (3) strengthening the agency's education initiatives
12 to increase awareness of food and nutrition programs in this state
13 and of the benefits of physical activity by using public service
14 announcements; and

15 (4) facilitating obesity prevention and diabetes
16 awareness initiatives.

17 SECTION 3. Section 531.022, Government Code, is amended by
18 adding Subsection (f) to read as follows:

19 (f) In addition to the goals specified by Subsection (c),
20 the plan must include as a goal of the commission, the Department of
21 Assistive and Rehabilitative Services, and the Department of State
22 Health Services addressing hunger, food, nutrition, physical
23 activity, and obesity in this state by:

24 (1) increasing access to nutritious foods by persons
25 served by the agencies;

26 (2) increasing access to and participation in the
27 national free or reduced-price lunch program established under 42

1 U.S.C. Section 1751 et seq. by eligible persons served by the
2 agencies;

3 (3) strengthening each agency's education initiatives
4 to increase awareness of food and nutrition programs in this state
5 and of the benefits of physical activity by using public service
6 announcements; and

7 (4) facilitating obesity prevention and diabetes
8 awareness initiatives.

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

11 (1) the Department of Agriculture shall, using
12 existing funds, include in the plan the goals and methods of
13 implementing the goals required by Section 12.00252, Agriculture
14 Code, as added by this Act; and

15 (2) the Texas Education Agency shall, using existing
16 funds, include in the plan the goals and methods of implementing the
17 goals required by Section 7.021(d), Education Code, as added by
18 this Act.

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

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