

# SENATE AMENDMENTS

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Printing

By: Parker, King of Taylor, Rose, Villalba,  
Fallon, et al.

H.B. No. 2718

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to a program to allow faith- and community-based  
3 organizations to offer supplemental assistance to certain  
4 recipients of public assistance.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is  
7 amended by adding Section 531.02482 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 531.02482. FAITH- AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION  
9 SUPPORT FOR CERTAIN PERSONS RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE. (a) In  
10 this section, "community-based organization" and "faith-based  
11 organization" have the meanings assigned by Section 535.001.

12 (b) The commission shall establish a program under which  
13 faith- and community-based organizations may, on the request of the  
14 applicant, contact and offer supplemental assistance to an  
15 applicant for benefits under:

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

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

20 (3) the supplemental nutrition assistance program  
21 under Chapter 33, Human Resources Code; or

22 (4) the child health plan program under Chapter 62,  
23 Health and Safety Code.

24 (c) A person must be informed about the program and given

1 the opportunity to enroll at the time of application for benefits  
2 described by Subsection (b).

3 (d) The commission shall develop a procedure under which  
4 faith- and community-based organizations may apply to participate  
5 in the program.

6 (e) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules to  
7 implement the program established under this section, including  
8 rules that:

9 (1) describe the types of faith- and community-based  
10 organizations that may apply to participate in the program;

11 (2) facilitate contact between a person who enrolls in  
12 the program and a faith- and community-based organization  
13 participating in the program that provides supplemental services  
14 that may be of assistance to the person; and

15 (3) permit a person enrolled in the program  
16 established under this section to terminate the person's enrollment  
17 in the program.

18 SECTION 2. If before implementing any provision of this Act  
19 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a  
20 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,  
21 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or  
22 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the  
23 waiver or authorization is granted.

24 SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
25 of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human  
26 Services Commission shall adopt the rules necessary to implement  
27 the changes in law made by this Act.

1 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2016.

ADOPTED

MAY 24 2015

*Patricia Spaw*  
Secretary of the Senate

H.B. No. 2718

*Rodney Ellis*

By: \_\_\_\_\_

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 2718:

By: *J. Rodriguez*

C.S. H.B. No. 2718

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12 (b) The commission shall establish a program under which  
13 faith- and community-based organizations may, on the request of the  
14 applicant, contact and offer supplemental assistance to an  
15 applicant for benefits under:

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

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

20 (3) the supplemental nutrition assistance program  
21 under Chapter 33, Human Resources Code; or

22 (4) the child health plan program under Chapter 62,  
23 Health and Safety Code.

24 (c) At the time of application for benefits described by

1 Subsection (b), an applicant must:

2 (1) be informed about and given the opportunity to  
3 enroll in the program; and

4 (2) be informed that enrolling in the program will not  
5 affect the person's eligibility for benefits.

6 (d) The commission shall develop a procedure under which  
7 faith- and community-based organizations may apply to participate  
8 in the program.

9 (e) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules to  
10 implement the program established under this section, including  
11 rules that:

12 (1) describe the types of faith- and community-based  
13 organizations that may apply to participate in the program and the  
14 qualifications and standards of service required of a participating  
15 organization;

16 (2) facilitate contact between a person who enrolls in  
17 the program and a faith- and community-based organization  
18 participating in the program that provides supplemental services  
19 that may be of assistance to the person;

20 (3) establish processes for the suspension,  
21 revocation, and periodic renewal of an organization's  
22 participation in the program, as appropriate;

23 (4) establish methods to ensure the confidentiality  
24 and appropriate use of applicant information shared with a  
25 participating organization; and

26 (5) permit a person enrolled in the program to  
27 terminate the person's enrollment in the program.

1           (f) In establishing the program, the commission may solicit  
2 expertise and assistance from interested persons, including faith-  
3 and community-based organizations, and may establish a temporary  
4 work group to provide input and assistance. This subsection  
5 expires, and any work group established under this subsection is  
6 abolished, September 1, 2017.

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

13           SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
14 of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human  
15 Services Commission shall adopt the rules necessary to implement  
16 the changes in law made by this Act.

17           SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2016.

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**

**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**May 25, 2015**

**TO:** Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB2718** by Parker (Relating to a program to allow faith- and community-based organizations to offer supplemental assistance to certain recipients of public assistance.),  
**As Passed 2nd House**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would require the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to establish a program under which faith- and community-based organizations may contact and offer supplemental assistance to persons applying for certain public assistance benefits. HHSC would be directed to request any federal waiver or authorization necessary to implement the provisions of the bill and could delay implementation of any provision until such waiver or authorization is granted. While HHSC will have costs to establish the program, develop program procedures, and modify the Texas Integrated Eligibility Redesign System (TIERS), it is assumed that the provisions of the bill can be implemented within existing resources.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 529 Health and Human Services Commission

**LBB Staff:** UP, SD, CH, NB, LR, JQ

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**

**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**May 20, 2015**

**TO:** Honorable Charles Schwertner, Chair, Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB2718** by Parker (Relating to a program to allow faith- and community-based organizations to offer supplemental assistance to certain recipients of public assistance.),  
**Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would require the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to establish a program under which faith- and community-based organizations may contact and offer supplemental assistance to persons applying for certain public assistance benefits. HHSC would be directed to request any federal waiver or authorization necessary to implement the provisions of the bill and could delay implementation of any provision until such waiver or authorization is granted. While HHSC will have costs to establish the program, develop program procedures, and modify the Texas Integrated Eligibility Redesign System (TIERS), it is assumed that the provisions of the bill can be implemented within existing resources.

**Local Government Impact**

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

**Source Agencies:** 529 Health and Human Services Commission

**LBB Staff:** UP, CH, NB, LR, JQ



**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**

**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**May 14, 2015**

**TO:** Honorable Charles Schwertner, Chair, Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB2718** by Parker (Relating to a program to allow faith- and community-based organizations to offer supplemental assistance to certain recipients of public assistance.),  
**As Engrossed**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would require the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to establish a program under which faith- and community-based organizations may contact and offer supplemental assistance to persons applying for certain public assistance benefits. HHSC would be directed to request any federal waiver or authorization necessary to implement the provisions of the bill and could delay implementation of any provision until such waiver or authorization is granted. While HHSC will have costs to establish the program, develop program procedures, and modify the Texas Integrated Eligibility Redesign System (TIERS), it is assumed that the provisions of the bill can be implemented within existing resources.

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**Source Agencies:** 529 Health and Human Services Commission

**LBB Staff:** UP, NB, CH, LR, JQ

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
**Austin, Texas**

**FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**April 11, 2015**

**TO:** Honorable Richard Peña Raymond, Chair, House Committee on Human Services

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE:** **HB2718** by Parker (Relating to a program to allow faith- and community-based organizations to offer supplemental assistance to certain recipients of public assistance.),  
**Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would require the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to establish a program under which faith- and community-based organizations may contact and offer supplemental assistance to persons applying for certain public assistance benefits. HHSC would be directed to request any federal waiver or authorization necessary to implement the provisions of the bill and could delay implementation of any provision until such waiver or authorization is granted. While HHSC will have costs to establish the program, develop program procedures, and modify the Texas Integrated Eligibility Redesign System (TIERS), it is assumed that the provisions of the bill can be implemented within existing resources.

**Local Government Impact**

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**Source Agencies:** 529 Health and Human Services Commission

**LBB Staff:** UP, NB, CH, LR, JQ

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD**  
Austin, Texas

**FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION**

**April 4, 2015**

**TO:** Honorable Richard Peña Raymond, Chair, House Committee on Human Services

**FROM:** Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

**IN RE: HB2718** by Parker (Relating to a program to allow faith- and community-based organizations to offer supplemental assistance to certain recipients of public assistance.),  
**As Introduced**

**No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.**

The bill would require the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to establish a program under which faith- and community-based organizations may contact and offer supplemental assistance to persons applying for certain public assistance benefits. HHSC would be directed to request any federal waiver or authorization necessary to implement the provisions of the bill and could delay implementation of any provision until such waiver or authorization is granted. While HHSC will have costs to establish the program, develop program procedures, and modify the Texas Integrated Eligibility Redesign System (TIERS), it is assumed that the provisions of the bill can be implemented within existing resources.

**Local Government Impact**

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**LBB Staff:** UP, NB, CH, LR, JQ