By:  Kolkhorst S.B. No. 981

(Zerwas)

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the disaster supplemental nutrition assistance program.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter A, Chapter 33, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Section 33.0024 to read as follows:

Sec. 33.0024.  DISASTER SNAP. (a)  In this section, "program" means the program to provide supplemental nutrition assistance benefits to victims of a disaster as authorized by 7 U.S.C. Section 2014.

(b)  The commission shall:

(1)  in collaboration with local government officials:

(A)  create a directory of local points of contact for the operation of the program;

(B)  determine the best method for communication between the commission and local government officials regarding the program; and

(C)  evaluate, develop, and maintain a list of potential sites for in-person application for program benefits that meet federal requirements;

(2)  enter into memorandums of understanding with local government agencies documenting the roles and responsibilities of the commission and each local government agency regarding the determination of the need for and the location of sites for in-person application for program benefits; and

(3)  provide information regarding the program and strategies for effective collaboration between local governments and the commission to local government officials in coastal counties by hosting webinars, conducting conference calls, or holding in-person meetings.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2019.