

By: Klick

H.B. No. 1218

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the distribution of benefits under the supplemental  
3 nutrition assistance program.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 33.002, Human Resources Code, is amended  
6 by adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

7 (c-1) The executive commissioner by rule shall establish a  
8 schedule for the distribution of supplemental nutrition assistance  
9 program benefits that ensures the even distribution of the benefits  
10 each month over a 28-day period.

11 SECTION 2. Not later than September 1, 2020, the executive  
12 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall  
13 adopt, modify, or repeal rules as necessary to implement Section  
14 33.002(c-1), Human Resources Code, as added by this Act.

15 SECTION 3. A distribution schedule adopted as required by  
16 Section 33.002(c-1), Human Resources Code, as added by this Act,  
17 applies only to the distribution of supplemental nutrition  
18 assistance program benefits to a recipient whose initial  
19 determination of eligibility under Chapter 33, Human Resources  
20 Code, for those benefits is made on or after September 1, 2020. The  
21 distribution of benefits to a recipient whose initial determination  
22 of eligibility under Chapter 33, Human Resources Code, is made  
23 before September 1, 2020, is governed by the distribution schedule  
24 in effect immediately preceding that date, and the former law is

1 continued in effect for that purpose.

2 SECTION 4. If before implementing any provision of this Act  
3 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a  
4 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,  
5 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or  
6 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the  
7 waiver or authorization is granted.

8 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
9 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
10 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
11 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
12 Act takes effect September 1, 2019.