

By: Neave

H.B. No. 1583

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a government shutdown housing relief loan program; authorizing fees.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter K, Chapter 2306, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 2306.2591 to read as follows:

Sec. 2306.2591. GOVERNMENT SHUTDOWN HOUSING RELIEF LOAN PROGRAM. (a) The department shall establish and administer a program to provide loans to federal employees who are:

(1) considered nonessential or otherwise furloughed during a federal government shutdown; or

(2) working without pay during a federal government shutdown as a result of being considered essential or otherwise excepted from a furlough.

(b) A loan made under this section:

(1) may be made only for rent, mortgage, or utility payments;

(2) must be repaid not later than the 60th day after the date the federal government processes back pay for the loan recipient following the end of a federal government shutdown; and

(3) may not bear interest.

(c) The department shall adopt rules necessary to administer the program. Rules adopted under this section:

(1) must include requirements for documentation

1 necessary for a loan applicant to establish eligibility for
2 participation in the program, including proof of employment and
3 covered expenses; and

4 (2) may impose fees for the failure to repay a loan
5 within the period required by Subsection (b)(2).

6 (d) The department may use any available revenue, including
7 any available money from the housing trust fund, to provide loans
8 under this section. The department shall solicit and accept gifts
9 and grants for the purposes of this section.

10 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.