

By: Bowers

H.B. No. 3180

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the establishment of a centralized homelessness crisis response data system.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter KK, Chapter 2306, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 2306.911 to read as follows:

Sec. 2306.911. CENTRALIZED HOMELESSNESS CRISIS RESPONSE DATA SYSTEM. (a) The council shall collaborate with a state agency designated by the council to establish a centralized homelessness crisis response data system through which state agencies, local governmental entities, including law enforcement agencies, court systems, school districts, and emergency service providers, and other relevant persons are able to share and access information related to individuals who experience chronic homelessness in order to connect or refer those individuals to services, including affordable housing opportunities.

(b) In developing the centralized homelessness crisis response data system, the council and the state agency designated by the council shall:

(1) consult with representatives of the entities described by Subsection (a) to determine the challenges faced by those entities in addressing chronic homelessness and how best to improve the responses to those challenges; and

(2) enter into data sharing agreements as necessary

1 for the exchange of information relating to individuals  
2 experiencing chronic homelessness through the centralized  
3 homelessness crisis response data system.

4 (c) The centralized homelessness crisis response data  
5 system established under this section must:

6 (1) to the extent permitted by a data sharing  
7 agreement, collect data from other homelessness crisis response  
8 systems maintained or operated by a state agency, local law  
9 enforcement agency, or other entity of this state; and

10 (2) collect, aggregate, analyze, and share  
11 homelessness information submitted to the centralized homelessness  
12 crisis response data system with entities that have access to the  
13 system.

14 SECTION 2. Not later than September 1, 2021, the Texas  
15 Interagency Council for the Homeless described by Subchapter KK,  
16 Chapter 2306, Government Code, or an entity designated by the  
17 council shall prepare and submit to the legislature and the Texas  
18 Department of Housing and Community Affairs a written report that  
19 evaluates the effectiveness of the centralized homelessness crisis  
20 response data system established under Section 2306.911,  
21 Government Code, as added by this Act, in addressing chronic  
22 homelessness in this state.

23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.