

By: Kolkhorst

S.B. No. 2166

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to eligibility for supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits, including transitional benefits.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 33, Human Resources Code, is amended by adding Sections 33.0151 and 33.0152 to read as follows:

Sec. 33.0151. TRANSITIONAL BENEFITS ALTERNATIVE. (a) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules in accordance with 7 U.S.C. Section 2020(s) and 7 C.F.R. Part 273, Subpart H, to provide transitional supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits to a household:

(1) that ceases to receive cash assistance under the financial assistance program established under Chapter 31 and funded under Part A, Title IV, Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. Section 601 et seq.); or

(2) with children that ceases to receive cash assistance under a state-funded public assistance program.

(b) In adopting rules under this section, the executive commissioner shall ensure that each household that qualifies for transitional supplemental nutrition assistance program benefits receives the benefits for the maximum period allowed under federal law.

Sec. 33.0152. ELIGIBILITY RESTRICTION FOR NONCOOPERATION

1 WITH CHILD SUPPORT AGENCY. (a) In this section, "Title IV-D
2 agency" has the meaning assigned by Section 101.033, Family Code.

3 (b) As authorized by 7 U.S.C. Sections 2015(l) and (m), a
4 person may not receive supplemental nutrition assistance program
5 benefits during any month in which the person does not cooperate
6 with the Title IV-D agency. The commission shall determine whether
7 a person is subject to this subsection at the time the person
8 submits an initial application for supplemental nutrition
9 assistance program benefits and at the time of any recertification
10 for the benefits.

11 (c) The commission and the Title IV-D agency shall jointly
12 enforce this section.

13 SECTION 2. If before implementing any provision of this Act
14 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a
15 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,
16 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or
17 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
18 waiver or authorization is granted.

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