By: Minjarez

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## A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

## AN ACT

2 relating to the Texas Leading on Opportunity, Investment, and 3 Economic Stimulus Through Aid and Relief (LONESTAR) Supplemental 4 Appropriations Act of 2021; making appropriations and giving 5 direction regarding appropriations.

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

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE. This Act may be cited as the Texas
Leading on Opportunity, Investment, and Economic Stimulus Through
Aid and Relief (LONESTAR) Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2021.

SECTION 2. COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS: RESTORATION OF 10 11 STATE AGENCY BUDGET REDUCTIONS. (a) The amount of \$1,000,000 is 12 appropriated to the comptroller of public accounts from money received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery 13 14 Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of 15 the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium 16 beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of restoring funding 17 to state agencies, as authorized by other law, to make up for 18 reductions in appropriated amounts equal to five percent of total 19 20 appropriations made to state agencies from the general revenue fund 21 and dedicated accounts in the general revenue fund for the state fiscal year ending August 31, 2021, made by Chapter 1353 (H.B. 1), 22 23 Acts of the 86th Legislature, Regular Session, 2019 (the General Appropriations Act), due to the COVID-19 pandemic. 24

1 (b) The comptroller, in consultation with the Legislative Budget Board, shall identify the strategies and objectives out of 2 3 which the reductions in amounts appropriated to each state agency from the general revenue fund and dedicated accounts in the general 4 5 revenue fund were made and allocate the money appropriated under Subsection (a) in a manner that, to the greatest extent 6 practicable, restores the amounts appropriated to state agencies 7 8 before the reductions in appropriations occurred.

9 SECTION 3. COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS: PREMIUM PAY FOR 10 ELIGIBLE WORKERS EMPLOYED BY STATE AGENCIES. (a) In this section, 11 "premium pay" and "eligible workers" have the meanings assigned by 12 42 U.S.C. Section 802(g).

The amount of \$1,000,000,000 is appropriated to the 13 (b) 14 comptroller of public accounts from money received by this state 15 from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 16 17 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning 18 19 September 1, 2021, for the purpose of providing funding for premium pay for eligible workers employed by state agencies as authorized 20 by other law. 21

SECTION 4. TEXAS COMMISSION ON THE ARTS: ARTS AND CULTURAL GRANTS FOR PHYSICAL AND ECONOMIC DAMAGE. The amount of \$11,000,000 is appropriated to the Texas Commission on the Arts from money received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of

1 the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium 2 beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of increasing funding 3 for arts and cultural grants authorized by other law to offset 4 physical damage caused by hurricanes or winter storms or economic 5 damage caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

6 SECTION 5. TEXAS COMMISSION ON THE ARTS: ARTS AND CULTURAL GRANTS FOR SUMMER EDUCATION. 7 The amount of \$10,000,000 is 8 appropriated to the Texas Commission on the Arts from money received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery 9 Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue 10 Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of 11 the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium 12 beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of providing funding 13 14 for arts and cultural grants authorized by other law benefiting 15 nonprofit organizations that provide summer camps or summer education programming for students in this state. 16

TEXAS MUSIC OFFICE, TRUSTEED PROGRAMS WITHIN THE 17 SECTION 6. OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR: MUSIC VENUE AND FESTIVAL REBATES. 18 The amount of \$10,000,000 is appropriated to the Texas Music Office 19 within the Trusteed Programs within the Office of the Governor from 20 money received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal 21 Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the 22 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited 23 24 to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of 25 26 providing funding for rebates for eligible music venues and 27 festival promoters to reduce the impact of venue closures and

1 social distancing requirements during the COVID-19 pandemic.

SECTION 7. OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR: SMALL BUSINESS DISASTER 2 RECOVERY LOANS. The amount of \$300,000,000 is appropriated to the 3 Office of the Governor from money received by this state from the 4 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) 5 established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 6 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus 7 8 Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of providing funding for small 9 10 business disaster recovery loans authorized by other law for small 11 businesses that experienced physical damage caused by hurricanes or winter storms or economic damage caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. 12

SECTION 8. COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS: 13 BROADBAND The amount of \$3,000,000,000 is appropriated to the 14 SERVICES. 15 comptroller of public accounts from money received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 16 17 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus 18 Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning 19 September 1, 2021, for the purpose of providing funding for grants, 20 21 loans, and incentives authorized by other law for broadband 22 services in areas of the state currently in need of those services.

SECTION 9. HISTORICAL COMMISSION: MAIN STREET PROGRAM. The amount of \$2,000,000 is appropriated to the Historical Commission from money received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited

to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of providing funding for downtown and main street revitalization projects in small and rural municipalities designated as part of the Main Street Program, including projects for infrastructure improvement, to encourage tourism and economic development in rural areas impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

SECTION 10. DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION RESOURCES: IT LEGACY 8 9 SYSTEMS AND CYBERSECURITY. The amount of \$500,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Information Resources from money 10 received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery 11 Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue 12 Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of 13 the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium 14 15 beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of upgrading and modernizing state agency information technology (IT) legacy 16 17 systems and cybersecurity enhancements for state agency IT systems.

SECTION 11. VETERANS COMMISSION: VETERANS ASSISTANCE. 18 The amount of \$100,000,000 is appropriated to the Veterans Commission 19 from money received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal 20 Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the 21 22 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state 23 24 fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of assistance funding for general 25 providing grants, housing 26 assistance grants, treatment court grants, and behavioral health 27 assistance grants, as authorized by other law, to assist veterans

1 who have been substantially impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

SECTION 12. DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES: 2 TEXAS HOME VISITING NURSE PROGRAM AND NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP 3 PROGRAM. (a) The amount of \$146,800,000 is appropriated to the 4 5 Department of Family and Protective Services from money received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 6 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act 7 8 of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium 9 10 beginning September 1, 2021, to be allocated as follows:

(1) \$71,200,000 to provide funding for the Texas Home
 Visiting Program; and

13 (2) \$75,600,000 to provide funding for the
14 Nurse-Family Partnership Program to expand home visiting.

15 (b) To the extent authorized by other law, the Department of 16 Family and Protective Services shall coordinate with the Maternal 17 Mortality Review Commission and the Office for the Elimination of 18 Health Disparities to target the spending of money appropriated by 19 Subsection (a) of this section to areas of the state with high 20 instances of maternal mortality and severe maternal morbidity and 21 high rates of removal of children from their homes.

22 SECTION 13. DEPARTMENT OF FAMILY AND PROTECTIVE SERVICES: 23 FOSTER CARE PROVIDER CAPACITY. The amount of \$65,800,000 is 24 appropriated to the Department of Family and Protective Services 25 from money received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal 26 Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the 27 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited

1 to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state 2 fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of 3 increasing foster care provider capacity, including through 4 temporary rate increases, as authorized by other law.

5 SECTION 14. DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES: HTV MEDICATION PROGRAM. The amount of \$67,000,000 is appropriated to 6 the Department of State Health Services from money received by this 7 8 state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act 9 of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the 10 Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium 11 12 beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of providing additional funding for the HIV Medication Program. 13

SECTION 15. DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES: FIREARM 14 15 INJURY PREVENTION RESEARCH. The amount of \$10,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of State Health Services from money 16 17 received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue 18 19 Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium 20 beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of providing funding 21 for grants authorized by other law to health-related institutions 22 23 in this state to conduct research into firearm injury prevention. 24 To the extent authorized by other law, the department shall prioritize those research projects that have received federal 25 26 funding to support the project.

27 SECTION 16. DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES: OFFICE FOR

THE ELIMINATION OF HEALTH DISPARITIES. The amount of \$100,000,000 1 is appropriated to the Department of State Health Services from 2 3 money received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the 4 5 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state 6 fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of 7 providing funding for the department's Office for the Elimination 8 of Health Disparities to support the office's evidence-based 9 10 initiatives to reduce health conditions contributing to COVID-19 mortality, including diabetes, cancer, heart disease, obesity, and 11 12 smoking.

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SECTION 17. DEPARTMENT OF STATE HEALTH SERVICES: SURGE 13 The amount of \$100,000,000 is appropriated to the 14 RESPONSE. 15 Department of State Health Services from money received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. 16 17 Section 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus 18 Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning 19 September 1, 2021, for the purpose of providing, in coordination 20 21 with the Texas Division of Emergency Management, grants and 22 financial assistance authorized by other law to local and county 23 health departments and hospital districts to respond to surges in 24 COVID-19 cases and to maintain access to health care services during surges in COVID-19 cases. 25

26 SECTION 18. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION: 27 POSTPARTUM MEDICAID BENEFITS. The amount of \$91,400,000 is

1 appropriated to the Health and Human Services Commission from money received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery 2 Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue 3 Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of 4 5 the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of extending maternal 6 postpartum Medicaid benefits for an additional six months as 7 8 authorized by other law.

SECTION 19. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION: MENTAL 9 AND BEHAVIORAL HEALTH AND SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER TREATMENT. 10 (a) The amount of \$928,000,000 is appropriated to the Health and Human 11 12 Services Commission from money received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) 13 14 established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. 15 No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 16 17 2021, for the purpose of providing funding for mental and behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment. 18

(b) Out of money appropriated by Subsection (a) of thissection, the amount of:

(1) \$50,000,000 may be used only to provide funding for evidence-based initiatives for survivors of domestic assault and sexual assault authorized by other law;

(2) \$47,200,000 may be used only to reduce the
substance use treatment waitlist for pregnant women and women with
children in the manner authorized by other law;

27 (3) \$10,000,000 may be used only to provide funding

1 for a temporary rate increase for substance use treatment services
2 in the manner authorized by other law;

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3 (4) \$10,000,000 may be used only to provide funding 4 for evidence-based initiatives to reduce opioid addiction in this 5 state authorized by other law; and

6 (5) \$40,000,000 may be used only to support mobile 7 crisis services authorized by other law that are available 24 hours 8 a day, 7 days a week.

SECTION 20. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION: MENTAL 9 10 HEALTH INITIATIVES. The amount of \$10,000,000 is appropriated to the Health and Human Services Commission from money received by 11 this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 12 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act 13 14 of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the 15 Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of supporting 16 17 evidence-based initiatives authorized by other law that address trauma relating to the COVID-19 pandemic and promote children's 18 19 mental health, including providing proportional rate increases for 20 providers, hospitals, rural hospitals, and graduate medical institutions with COVID-19 patients and expanding access to mental 21 health care and telemedicine. 22

23 SECTION 21. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION: EARLY 24 CHILDHOOD INTERVENTION SERVICE PROVIDERS. The amount of 25 \$81,000,000 is appropriated to the Health and Human Services 26 Commission from money received by this state from the Coronavirus 27 State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established

1 under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and 2 deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for 3 the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the 4 purpose of increasing rates for early childhood intervention 5 service providers as authorized by other law.

6 SECTION 22. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION: PROVIDERS 7 AND HOSPITALS. (a) The amount of \$1,000,000,000 is appropriated to the Health and Human Services Commission from money received by 8 this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 9 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act 10 of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the 11 Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium 12 beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of providing rate 13 14 increases and incentive payments, as authorized by other law, to 15 providers and hospitals that have been substantially affected by the COVID-19 pandemic to retain and attract staff necessary to 16 17 handle surges in COVID-19 case counts and to maintain access to emergency surgeries and to vital, elective, and non-cosmetic 18 19 surgeries.

(b) To the extent authorized by other law, the commission shall collaborate with affected industries to develop a payment methodology for incentive payments made from money appropriated by Subsection (a) of this section. The methodology must:

(1) provide for quarterly lump sum payments;
(2) accurately reflect COVID-19-related costs; and
(3) prioritize providers and hospitals that have not
received other federal or state COVID-19 relief funding.

1 (c) To receive incentive payments, a provider or hospital must submit to the commission quarterly a report of the provider's 2 3 or hospital's COVID-19-related costs. As authorized by other law, a provider or hospital that receives an incentive payment from money 4 appropriated by Subsection (a) of this section is subject to audit 5 by the State Auditor's Office and the Office of the Inspector 6 General and the provider or hospital may be required to return a 7 8 payment if an audit demonstrates that fraud, waste, or abuse occurred. 9

SECTION 23. HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES COMMISSION, OFFICE OF 10 THE INSPECTOR GENERAL: FRAUD INVESTIGATIONS. 11 The amount of 12 \$5,000,000 is appropriated to the Health and Human Services Commission, Office of the Inspector General, from money received by 13 14 this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 15 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the 16 17 Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of increasing 18 19 activities authorized by other law to detect, recoup, and prevent instances of fraud, waste, and abuse relating to COVID-19 20 flexibilities in state public benefit programs. 21

SECTION 24. TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY: GRANTS TO SCHOOL 22 DISTRICTS FOR PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT AND TESTING. 23 The 24 amount of \$100,000,000 is appropriated to the Texas Education Agency from money received by this state from the Coronavirus State 25 26 Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited 27

1 to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state 2 fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of 3 providing grants as authorized by other law to school districts to 4 support personal protective equipment acquisition and targeted 5 COVID-19 testing for teachers and students.

SECTION 25. TEXAS EDUCATION AGENCY: GRANTS ТΟ SCHOOL 6 DISTRICTS 7 FOR ONLINE LEARNING AND ADDRESSING LEARNING 8 DEFICIENCIES. The amount of \$81,000,000 is appropriated to the Texas Education Agency from money received by this state from the 9 10 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. 11 No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief 12 Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 13 14 2021, for the purpose of providing grants as authorized by other law 15 to school districts to bolster online learning capabilities and address student learning deficiencies resulting from the COVID-19 16 17 pandemic.

SECTION 26. HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD: STUDENT 18 FINANCIAL EMERGENCIES. 19 (a) The amount of \$60,000,000 is appropriated to the Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board from 20 money received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal 21 Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the 22 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited 23 24 to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of 25 26 providing grants as authorized by other law to assist undergraduate and graduate students to overcome financial emergencies that 27

1 threaten their ability to complete their courses of study.

2 (b) A student who receives a grant under Subsection (a) of3 this section:

4 (1) must have completed not less than 50 percent of the5 student's coursework;

6 (2) must have a passing cumulative grade point 7 average; and

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(3) may not be the cause of the financial emergency.

9 SECTION 27. HIGHER EDUCATION COORDINATING BOARD: CAREERS IN SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, MATHEMATICS, AND ENGINEERING. (a) The amount 10 of \$100,000,000 is appropriated to the Texas Higher Education 11 Coordinating Board from money received by this state from the 12 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) 13 14 established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. 15 No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 16 17 2021, to be distributed as authorized by other law in coordination with the Texas Education Agency and Texas Workforce Commission for 18 19 programs at universities and junior colleges to train undergraduate and graduate students for careers that contribute to this state's 20 future economic and workforce needs with a focus on careers in 21 science, technology, mathematics, and engineering fields. 22

(b) To the extent authorized by other law, the board shall ensure that at least \$25,000,000 of the money appropriated by Subsection (a) of this section is distributed to programs at universities and junior colleges that retrain workers who lost jobs in industries severely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

1 SECTION 28. TEXAS DIVISION OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT: STRATEGIC PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT STOCKPILE. The amount of 2 3 \$100,000,000 is appropriated to the Texas Division of Emergency Management from money received by this state from the Coronavirus 4 5 State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and 6 deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for 7 8 the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of establishing and maintaining a strategic personal 9 10 protective equipment and medical supply stockpile for the state based on planning required by legislation passed by the 87th 11 Legislature as authorized by that legislation. 12

SECTION 29. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY: TESTING 13 AND 14 PERSONAL PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT. The amount of \$5,000,000 is appropriated to the Department of Public Safety from money received 15 by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 16 17 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the 18 Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium 19 beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of providing targeted 20 COVID-19 testing and purchasing personal protective equipment for 21 22 law enforcement officers and other public safety employees as 23 authorized by other law.

SECTION 30. SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS: LEGAL REPRESENTATION GRANTS FOR EVICTEES. The amount of \$10,000,000 is appropriated to the Supreme Court of Texas from money received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802)

1 established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief 2 3 Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of providing, in consultation with the Texas 4 5 Access to Justice Commission and State Bar of Texas, grants authorized by other law to provide legal representation for 6 individuals facing eviction due to economic effects and other legal 7 8 issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

SECTION 31. SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS: REDUCTION OF COURT 9 The amount of \$20,000,000 is appropriated to the 10 BACKLOG. (a) Supreme Court of Texas from money received by this state from the 11 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) 12 established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. 13 14 No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief 15 Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of providing, in coordination with the Office 16 17 of Court Administration of the Texas Judicial System, grants authorized by other law to courts, counties, and district 18 19 attorneys' offices to reduce court backlogs caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. 20

(b) To the extent authorized by other law, the grants provided under Subsection (a) of this section must be distributed proportionally among courts, counties, and district attorneys' offices based on the size of the populations served by the applicable entity and the size of the backlog of the applicable entity.

27 SECTION 32. SUPREME COURT OF TEXAS: REDUCTION OF CRIMINAL

JUSTICE CASE BACKLOG. The amount of \$15,000,000 is appropriated to 1 the Supreme Court of Texas from money received by this state from 2 3 the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. 4 5 No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 6 2021, for the purpose of providing grants authorized by other law to 7 8 support programs that reduce the criminal justice case backlog through mental health and drug courts and community supervision and 9 diversion programs for low-level, nonviolent first-time offenders. 10

SECTION 33. TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE: NUTRITIONAL 11 12 PROGRAMS. The amount of \$30,000,000 is appropriated to the Texas Department of Agriculture from money received by this state from 13 14 the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) 15 established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief 16 17 Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of supporting food and nutritional programs 18 and allocated as follows: 19

20 (1) \$20,000,000 for the Texans Feeding Texans - Home
21 Delivered Meals Grant Program; and

(2) \$10,000,000 for the Texans Feeding Texans Surplus Agricultural Products Grant Program.

24 SECTION 34. TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE: DOWNTOWN AND 25 MAIN STREET REVITALIZATION PROJECTS. The amount of \$2,000,000 is 26 appropriated to the Texas Department of Agriculture from money 27 received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery

Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue 1 Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of 2 3 the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of supporting downtown 4 5 and main street revitalization projects, including infrastructure improvement, in rural municipalities and towns, as authorized by 6 other law, to encourage tourism and economic development in rural 7 8 areas affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.

SECTION 35. PARKS WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT: 9 AND DEFERRED MAINTENANCE OF STATE PARKS. 10 The amount of \$700,000,000 is appropriated to the Parks and Wildlife Department from money 11 12 received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue 13 14 Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of 15 the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of addressing unfunded 16 17 deferred maintenance of state parks.

SECTION 36. WATER DEVELOPMENT BOARD: CLEAN DRINKING WATER 18 AND FLOODING AND WASTEWATER INFRASTRUCTURE. 19 (a) The amount of \$100,000,000 is appropriated to the Water Development Board from 20 money received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal 21 Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the 22 American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited 23 24 to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of 25 26 providing loans and grants and issuing bonds authorized by other law to support clean drinking water and flooding and wastewater 27

1 infrastructure.

(b) To the extent authorized by other law, the board shall ensure that at least \$25,000,000 of the money appropriated by Subsection (a) of this section is used to provide loans and grants and issue bonds for economically distressed areas of this state and high-risk areas with a substantial need for clean drinking water and flooding and wastewater infrastructure.

SECTION 37. DEPARTMENT OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY AFFAIRS: 8 9 AFFORDABLE HOUSING. The amount of \$500,000,000 is appropriated to 10 the Department of Housing and Community Affairs from money received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 11 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue Plan Act 12 of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the 13 14 Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium 15 beginning September 1, 2021, for the purpose of addressing housing issues caused by the COVID-19 pandemic, as authorized by other law, 16 17 including by providing access to and availability of safe, affordable housing through initiatives that may include new housing 18 19 development, upgrades to infrastructure, and weatherization of existing affordable housing units. 20

21 SECTION 38. TEXAS WORKFORCE COMMISSION: CHILD CARE. The 22 amount of \$5,000,000 is appropriated to the Texas Workforce 23 Commission from money received by this state from the Coronavirus 24 State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established 25 under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and 26 deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for 27 the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 2021, for the

1 purpose of providing child care to unemployed or recently employed 2 caregivers of children to support reentry into the workforce for 3 individuals who lost employment due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

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4 SECTION 39. COMPTROLLER OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS: UNEMPLOYMENT 5 COMPENSATION FUND. For the two-year period beginning on the effective date of this Act, the amount of \$4,500,000,000 is 6 appropriated to the comptroller of public accounts from money 7 8 received by this state from the Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) established under the American Rescue 9 Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of 10 the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325, for deposit to the credit of 11 12 the unemployment compensation fund under Section 203.021, Labor 13 Code, for the purpose of paying back outstanding advances received 14 by this state under Section 1201, Social Security Act (42 U.S.C. 15 Section 1321), and returning the unemployment compensation fund to the statutory floor computed under Section 204.061, Labor Code, on 16 17 October 1, 2021, as reimbursement for payments made as a result of the coronavirus disease pandemic. 18

SECTION 40. APPROPRIATION: ELECTRICAL GRID IMPROVEMENTS. 19 The amount of \$1,000,000,000 is appropriated to the Public 20 Utilities Commission from money received by this state from the 21 Coronavirus State Fiscal Recovery Fund (42 U.S.C. Section 802) 22 23 established under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021 (Pub. L. 24 No. 117-2) and deposited to the credit of the Coronavirus Relief Fund No. 325 for the state fiscal biennium beginning September 1, 25 26 2021, for the purpose of providing, in coordination with the Railroad Commission of Texas, Electric Reliability Council of 27

1 Texas, Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, Texas Division of Emergency Management, Texas Electric Supply Chain Security and 2 3 Mapping Committee, and Texas Energy Reliability Council, funding for grants, loans, and incentives authorized by other law to 4 5 support electrical grid and infrastructure weatherization, hardening, resiliency, and improvements, with a focus on projects 6 that do not increase energy bills and taxes paid by homeowners and 7 8 businesses.

9 SECTION 41. REPORTING REQUIREMENTS. Each state agency to which money is appropriated under this Act shall submit to the 10 governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house 11 of 12 representatives, members of the Senate Finance Committee, and members of the House Appropriations Committee each quarter any 13 14 report the agency is required to submit to the United States 15 secretary of the treasury in accordance with 42 U.S.C. Section 802(d)(2). 16

17 SECTION 42. USE OF MONEY FOR BORDER WALL PROHIBITED. Money 18 appropriated by this Act may not be used to construct, renovate, 19 maintain, or otherwise facilitate the construction or maintenance 20 of a wall, fence, or other barrier on public or private land along 21 the United States' international border with Mexico.

SECTION 43. Section 17.16, Article IX, Chapter 1053 (S.B. 1), Acts of the 87th Legislature, Regular Session, 2021 (the General Appropriations Act), is repealed.

25 SECTION 44. This Act takes effect immediately.