87R5286 JG-D

By:  Bowers, Campos H.B. No. 1260

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a study on the feasibility of establishing a centralized homelessness crisis response data system.

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

SECTION 1.  (a) In this section, "council" means the Texas Interagency Council for the Homeless established under Subchapter KK, Chapter 2306, Government Code.

(b)  The council shall conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing 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.

(c)  In conducting the study under this section, the council shall:

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

(2)  assess the feasibility of the centralized homelessness crisis response data system described by Subsection (b) of this section to:

(A)  collect data from other homelessness crisis response data systems maintained or operated by a state agency, local law enforcement agency, or other entity of this state; and

(B)  collect, aggregate, analyze, and share homelessness information with entities that have access to the system.

(d)  Not later than November 1, 2022, the council shall prepare and submit to the Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs a written report that summarizes the results of the study conducted under this section.

SECTION 2.  This Act expires September 1, 2023.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.