87R6467 JG-F

By:  Campos H.B. No. 1431

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to statewide participation in a homeless management information system by service providers to the homeless.

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

SECTION 1.  Subchapter KK, Chapter 2306, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 2306.9055 to read as follows:

Sec. 2306.9055.  STATEWIDE PARTICIPATION IN HOMELESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM. (a) The council shall evaluate, encourage, incentivize, and monitor the participation by service providers to the homeless throughout this state in a regional or statewide homeless management information system to:

(1)  achieve statewide participation in a homeless management information system by service providers to the homeless;

(2)  improve the collaboration and coordination of services to the homeless;

(3)  increase transparency and accountability in the provision of services to the homeless; and

(4)  prevent the loss of state and federal funding for services to the homeless.

(b)  The council shall prepare and submit quarterly reports to the department on:

(1)  the rate of participation by service providers to the homeless in a homeless management information system, aggregated by region and participation trends throughout this state;

(2)  barriers to achieving statewide participation in a homeless management information system, including data input issues and quality control challenges related to statewide participation in a homeless management information system, and potential solutions to those barriers;

(3)  available funding sources to provide resources and incentivize participation in a homeless management information system;

(4)  an estimated timeline for updates to and the continued customization of homeless management information systems used by service providers to the homeless throughout this state;

(5)  the compliance with procurement regulations and privacy laws by homeless management information systems used by service providers to the homeless throughout this state;

(6)  feedback from participating and nonparticipating service providers to the homeless on:

(A)  the ease of access to participate in a homeless management information system; and

(B)  the local oversight of homeless management information system administrators;

(7)  recommendations provided by homeless management information system administrators throughout this state on carrying out this section and achieving statewide participation in a homeless management information system; and

(8)  data-driven scenarios that have improved the provision of services to the homeless throughout this state.

(c)  In carrying out this section and to achieve the goal of statewide participation in a homeless management information system, the council may seek assistance from the Texas Homeless Network or any other organization in this state with a network of service providers to the homeless.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.