87R11957 MP-D

By:  Gutierrez S.B. No. 1380

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of the farmer mental health and suicide prevention program.

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

SECTION 1.  Chapter 12, Agriculture Code, is amended by adding Section 12.051 to read as follows:

Sec. 12.051.  FARMER MENTAL HEALTH AND SUICIDE PREVENTION PROGRAM. (a) The department shall establish a farmer mental health and suicide prevention program to raise awareness among farmers of issues relating to mental health and suicide prevention.

(b)  As part of the program, the department shall:

(1)  promote suicide prevention among farmers through a public awareness campaign;

(2)  provide a toll-free telephone hotline for farmer mental health assistance;

(3)  develop a mental wellness plan for farmers affected by a disaster; and

(4)  coordinate suicide prevention activities with other state agencies, including the Department of State Health Services.

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