

By: Romero, Jr.

H.B. No. 1449

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the exclusion of certain resources in determining
3 eligibility for financial assistance and supplemental nutrition
4 assistance program benefits.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 31.032(d), Human Resources Code, is
7 amended to read as follows:

8 (d) In determining whether an applicant is eligible for
9 assistance, the commission shall exclude from the applicant's
10 available resources:

11 (1) \$5,000 [~~\$1,000~~] for the applicant's household,
12 including a household in which there is a person with a disability
13 or a person who is at least 60 years of age; and

14 (2) each [~~the fair market value of the applicant's~~
15 ~~ownership interest in a~~] motor vehicle in which the applicant or a
16 member of the applicant's household has an ownership interest [~~, but~~
17 ~~not more than \$5,000 plus or minus an amount to be determined~~
18 ~~annually beginning on October 1, 1997, to reflect changes in the new~~
19 ~~car component of the Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers~~
20 ~~published by the Bureau of Labor Statistics].~~

21 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 33, Human Resources Code,
22 is amended by adding Section 33.021 to read as follows:

23 Sec. 33.021. EXCLUSION OF MOTOR VEHICLES IN DETERMINING
24 SNAP ELIGIBILITY. In determining the eligibility of an applicant

1 for or recertifying the eligibility of a recipient of supplemental
2 nutrition assistance program benefits, the commission shall
3 exclude from the applicant's available resources each motor vehicle
4 in which the applicant or recipient or a member of the applicant's
5 or recipient's household has an ownership interest.

6 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply to:

7 (1) an initial determination or redetermination of
8 eligibility of a person for financial assistance under Chapter 31,
9 Human Resources Code, that is made on or after the effective date of
10 this Act; and

11 (2) an initial determination or recertification of
12 eligibility of a person for the supplemental nutrition assistance
13 program under Chapter 33, Human Resources Code, that is made on or
14 after the effective date of this Act.

15 SECTION 4. If before implementing any provision of this Act
16 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a
17 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,
18 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or
19 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
20 waiver or authorization is granted.

21 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.