

By: Hughes

S.B. No. 770

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to eligibility for job-training programs provided under the self-sufficiency fund.

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

SECTION 1. Section 309.002(a), Labor Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) Subject to the availability of funds, the self-sufficiency fund is created as an account in the general revenue fund for use by public community and technical colleges, community-based organizations, and state extension agencies to develop ~~[for certain recipients of financial assistance under Chapter 31, Human Resources Code, customized]~~ job-training programs in which individuals who are identified by the commission as being low-income or at risk of becoming dependent on public assistance benefits are ~~[the recipients will be]~~ provided job training by:

(1) an entity that develops a job-training program under this section;

(2) a small or medium-sized business or trade union;  
or

(3) an informal partnership between an entity that develops a job-training program under this section and a small or medium-sized business network or consortium.

SECTION 2. Section 309.003(b), Labor Code, is amended to

1 read as follows:

2 (b) An entity that receives money from the fund for a  
3 job-training program shall work in conjunction with employers to  
4 place participants who successfully complete [~~graduates of~~] the  
5 program in positions of employment in which the participants  
6 [~~graduates~~] will earn [~~be earning~~] wages sufficient to enable the  
7 participants [~~graduates~~] to become independent of or avoid becoming  
8 dependent on benefits under the financial assistance program  
9 established under Chapter 31, Human Resources Code, and if  
10 applicable, benefits [~~assistance~~] provided under the supplemental  
11 nutrition assistance [~~food stamp~~] program established  
12 [~~administered by the Texas Department of Human Services~~] under  
13 Chapter 33, Human Resources Code.

14 SECTION 3. Section 309.004, Labor Code, is amended to read  
15 as follows:

16 Sec. 309.004. RULEMAKING AUTHORITY. The commission shall  
17 adopt rules to implement this chapter, including rules to:

18 (1) identify individuals who are low-income or at risk  
19 of becoming dependent on public assistance benefits; and

20 (2) determine which individuals identified under  
21 Subdivision (1) [recipients of financial assistance under Chapter  
22 31, Human Resources Code,] are eligible to participate in  
23 job-training programs developed with money from the fund.

24 SECTION 4. If before implementing any provision of this Act  
25 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a  
26 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,  
27 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or

1 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the  
2 waiver or authorization is granted.

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