By:  Walle, Gates (Senate Sponsor - Zaffirini) H.B. No. 2533

(In the Senate - Received from the House May 4, 2023; May 12, 2023, read first time and referred to Committee on Local Government; May 22, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 22, 2023, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

                 Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Bettencourt       X

Springer          X

Eckhardt          X

Gutierrez         X

Hall              X

Nichols           X

Parker            X

Paxton            X

West              X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the implementation of a statewide homeless data sharing network to share real time data on homelessness.

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

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

SUBCHAPTER QQ. HOMELESS DATA SHARING

Sec. 2306.1151.  HOMELESS DATA SHARING NETWORK. (a) Using available resources, the department in collaboration with the Texas Homeless Network shall implement a homeless data sharing network through which homeless response systems and data warehouse vendors are able to share and assess real-time data on homelessness throughout this state.

(b)  In implementing the homeless data sharing network, the department shall collaborate with health benefit plan issuers and managed care organizations to:

(1)  identify individuals experiencing homelessness; and

(2)  connect and refer those individuals to available services and resources, including housing navigation assistance, for the purpose of improving health outcomes.

(c)  The department shall ensure that information shared through the homeless data sharing network that is confidential under state or federal law is not disclosed.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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