

By: Harrison

H.B. No. 4242

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to standardizing definitions of homelessness.

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

SECTION 1. Section 531.001, Government Code, is amended by adding subsection (9) to read as follows:

(9) "Homeless", "homelessness", and "homeless persons" mean individuals or families lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence as described in the federal McKinney-Vento homeless assistance act (Title 42 U.S.C., chapter 119, subchapter I) as it existed on January 1, 2023.

SECTION 2. Section 539.001, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 539.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Department" means the Department of State Health Services.

(2) "Homeless", "homeless family", "homeless youth", and "person experiencing homelessness" mean individuals or families lacking a fixed, regular, and adequate nighttime residence as described in the federal McKinney-Vento homeless assistance act (Title 42 U.S.C., chapter 119, subchapter I) as it existed on January 1, 2023.

SECTION 3. Section 2306.004, Government Code, is amended by adding subsection (12-b) to read as follows:

(12-b) "Homeless", "homelessness", and "homeless

1 individuals" mean individuals or families lacking a fixed, regular,  
2 and adequate nighttime residence as described in the federal  
3 McKinney-Vento homeless assistance act (Title 42 U.S.C., chapter  
4 119, subchapter I) as it existed on January 1, 2023.

5       SECTION 4.   This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.