By:  Bettencourt, et al. S.B. No. 2010

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authority of a political subdivision to establish and operate a guaranteed income program.

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

SECTION 1.  Chapter 140, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 140.014 to read as follows:

Sec. 140.014.  PROHIBITION ON GUARANTEED INCOME PROGRAM. (a) In this section, "guaranteed income program" means direct or indirect financial assistance to an individual, including cash payments, gift cards, or equivalent monetary transfers, whether recurring or structured as separate distributions.

(b)  Unless explicitly authorized by federal law, a political subdivision may not adopt or enforce an ordinance, order, regulation, or other measure that establishes or provides for the operation of a guaranteed income program for individuals.

(c)  If explicitly authorized by federal law, state and local public funds may not be used to fund, administer, or support the operation of the guaranteed income program in any capacity.

(d)  This section does not apply to a short-term program that is limited in duration and nonrenewable under which an individual is required to seek employment, perform work, or attend meaningful and verifiable career or job trainings as a condition for receiving a payment.

SECTION 2.  Notwithstanding Section 140.014, Local Government Code, as added by this Act, an ordinance, order, regulation, or other measure that establishes or provides for the operation of a guaranteed income program, as defined by that section, in effect before the effective date of this Act may be enforced until the earlier of January 1, 2026, or the expiration of the ordinance, order, regulation, or other measure.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect September 1, 2025.