

By: Campos

H.B. No. 3205

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the imposition of a county housing first initiatives fee in certain counties.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 118, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 118.027 to read as follows:

Sec. 118.027. FEE FOR HOUSING FIRST INITIATIVES IN CERTAIN COUNTIES. (a) This section applies only to a county with a population of 500,000 or more.

(b) The commissioners court of a county may adopt a housing first initiatives fee. The fee must be:

(1) adopted by the commissioners court at an open meeting; and

(2) itemized in the county's annual budget as part of the budget preparation process.

(c) The fee shall be paid by a person at the time the person pays a fee under Section 118.011(a)(1) or (2).

(d) The fee shall be deposited in a separate housing first initiatives account in the general fund of the county. Any interest that accrues on the account remains with the account.

(e) Revenue collected from the fee may be used only to fund housing initiatives, including:

(1) emergency shelter expansion;

(2) homelessness prevention services;

1           (3) street outreach programs;

2           (4) rapid rehousing programs; and

3           (5) transitional housing programs.

4           (f) The county may contract with a private entity, a  
5 nonprofit corporation, or a political subdivision to undertake an  
6 initiative authorized by this section.

7           SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
11 Act takes effect September 1, 2025.