

Chapter 1091

H.B. No. 2718

1 AN ACT

2 relating to a program to allow faith- and community-based
3 organizations to offer supplemental assistance to certain
4 recipients of public assistance.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 531.02482 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 531.02482. FAITH- AND COMMUNITY-BASED ORGANIZATION
9 SUPPORT FOR CERTAIN PERSONS RECEIVING PUBLIC ASSISTANCE. (a) In
10 this section, "community-based organization" and "faith-based
11 organization" have the meanings assigned by Section 535.001.

12 (b) The commission shall establish a program under which
13 faith- and community-based organizations may, on the request of the
14 applicant, contact and offer supplemental assistance to an
15 applicant for benefits under:

16 (1) the financial assistance program under Chapter 31,
17 Human Resources Code;

18 (2) the medical assistance program under Chapter 32,
19 Human Resources Code;

20 (3) the supplemental nutrition assistance program
21 under Chapter 33, Human Resources Code; or

22 (4) the child health plan program under Chapter 62,
23 Health and Safety Code.

24 (c) At the time of application for benefits described by

1 Subsection (b), an applicant must:

2 (1) be informed about and given the opportunity to
3 enroll in the program; and

4 (2) be informed that enrolling in the program will not
5 affect the person's eligibility for benefits.

6 (d) The commission shall develop a procedure under which
7 faith- and community-based organizations may apply to participate
8 in the program.

9 (e) The executive commissioner shall adopt rules to
10 implement the program established under this section, including
11 rules that:

12 (1) describe the types of faith- and community-based
13 organizations that may apply to participate in the program and the
14 qualifications and standards of service required of a participating
15 organization;

16 (2) facilitate contact between a person who enrolls in
17 the program and a faith- and community-based organization
18 participating in the program that provides supplemental services
19 that may be of assistance to the person;

20 (3) establish processes for the suspension,
21 revocation, and periodic renewal of an organization's
22 participation in the program, as appropriate;

23 (4) establish methods to ensure the confidentiality
24 and appropriate use of applicant information shared with a
25 participating organization; and

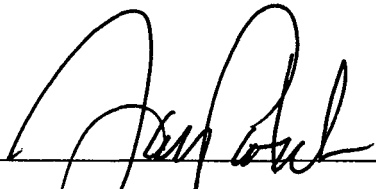
26 (5) permit a person enrolled in the program to
27 terminate the person's enrollment in the program.

1 (f) In establishing the program, the commission may solicit
2 expertise and assistance from interested persons, including faith-
3 and community-based organizations, and may establish a temporary
4 work group to provide input and assistance. This subsection
5 expires, and any work group established under this subsection is
6 abolished, September 1, 2017.

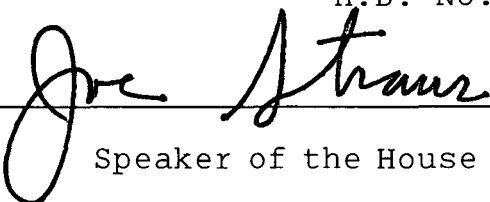
7 SECTION 2. If before implementing any provision of this Act
8 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a
9 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,
10 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or
11 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
12 waiver or authorization is granted.

13 SECTION 3. As soon as practicable after the effective date
14 of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human
15 Services Commission shall adopt the rules necessary to implement
16 the changes in law made by this Act.

17 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2016.



President of the Senate

H.B. No. 2718


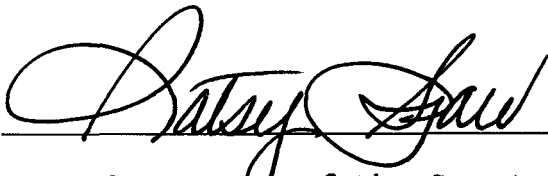
Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2718 was passed by the House on April 21, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting; and that the House concurred in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 2718 on May 27, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 141, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.



Chief Clerk of the House

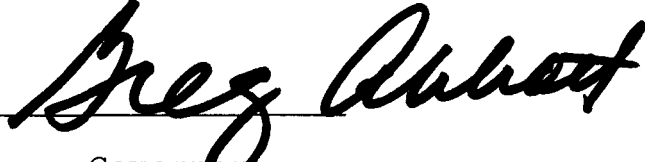
I certify that H.B. No. 2718 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 24, 2015, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.



Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: 6-13-2015


Date



Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE

6:30 pm O'CLOCK

JUN 19 2015


Secretary of State

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 25, 2015

TO: Honorable Joe Straus, Speaker of the House, House of Representatives

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2718 by Parker (Relating to a program to allow faith- and community-based organizations to offer supplemental assistance to certain recipients of public assistance.),
As Passed 2nd House

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would require the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to establish a program under which faith- and community-based organizations may contact and offer supplemental assistance to persons applying for certain public assistance benefits. HHSC would be directed to request any federal waiver or authorization necessary to implement the provisions of the bill and could delay implementation of any provision until such waiver or authorization is granted. While HHSC will have costs to establish the program, develop program procedures, and modify the Texas Integrated Eligibility Redesign System (TIERS), it is assumed that the provisions of the bill can be implemented within existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 529 Health and Human Services Commission

LBB Staff: UP, SD, CH, NB, LR, JQ

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas**

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 20, 2015

TO: Honorable Charles Schwertner, Chair, Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2718 by Parker (Relating to a program to allow faith- and community-based organizations to offer supplemental assistance to certain recipients of public assistance.), **Committee Report 2nd House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would require the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to establish a program under which faith- and community-based organizations may contact and offer supplemental assistance to persons applying for certain public assistance benefits. HHSC would be directed to request any federal waiver or authorization necessary to implement the provisions of the bill and could delay implementation of any provision until such waiver or authorization is granted. While HHSC will have costs to establish the program, develop program procedures, and modify the Texas Integrated Eligibility Redesign System (TIERS), it is assumed that the provisions of the bill can be implemented within existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 529 Health and Human Services Commission

LBB Staff: UP, CH, NB, LR, JQ

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas**

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

May 14, 2015

TO: Honorable Charles Schwertner, Chair, Senate Committee on Health & Human Services

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2718 by Parker (Relating to a program to allow faith- and community-based organizations to offer supplemental assistance to certain recipients of public assistance.),
As Engrossed

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

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Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 529 Health and Human Services Commission

LBB Staff: UP, NB, CH, LR, JQ

**LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas**

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 11, 2015

TO: Honorable Richard Peña Raymond, Chair, House Committee on Human Services

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB2718** by Parker (Relating to a program to allow faith- and community-based organizations to offer supplemental assistance to certain recipients of public assistance.), **Committee Report 1st House, Substituted**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would require the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to establish a program under which faith- and community-based organizations may contact and offer supplemental assistance to persons applying for certain public assistance benefits. HHSC would be directed to request any federal waiver or authorization necessary to implement the provisions of the bill and could delay implementation of any provision until such waiver or authorization is granted. While HHSC will have costs to establish the program, develop program procedures, and modify the Texas Integrated Eligibility Redesign System (TIERS), it is assumed that the provisions of the bill can be implemented within existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 529 Health and Human Services Commission

LBB Staff: UP, NB, CH, LR, JQ

LEGISLATIVE BUDGET BOARD
Austin, Texas

FISCAL NOTE, 84TH LEGISLATIVE REGULAR SESSION

April 4, 2015

TO: Honorable Richard Peña Raymond, Chair, House Committee on Human Services

FROM: Ursula Parks, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: HB2718 by Parker (Relating to a program to allow faith- and community-based organizations to offer supplemental assistance to certain recipients of public assistance.),
As Introduced

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would require the Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to establish a program under which faith- and community-based organizations may contact and offer supplemental assistance to persons applying for certain public assistance benefits. HHSC would be directed to request any federal waiver or authorization necessary to implement the provisions of the bill and could delay implementation of any provision until such waiver or authorization is granted. While HHSC will have costs to establish the program, develop program procedures, and modify the Texas Integrated Eligibility Redesign System (TIERS), it is assumed that the provisions of the bill can be implemented within existing resources.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 529 Health and Human Services Commission

LBB Staff: UP, NB, CH, LR, JQ