

1-1 By: Lucio S.B. No. 1109
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 26, 2019; March 7, 2019,
1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Health & Human
1-4 Services; April 25, 2019, reported adversely, with favorable
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0;
1-6 April 25, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	<u>X</u>			
1-10	<u>X</u>			
1-11	<u>X</u>			
1-12	<u>X</u>			
1-13	<u>X</u>			
1-14	<u>X</u>			
1-15	<u>X</u>			
1-16	<u>X</u>			
1-17	<u>X</u>			

1-18 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 1109 By: Perry

1-19 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-20 AN ACT

1-21 relating to a public outreach campaign for aging adults with visual
1-22 impairments.

1-23 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-24 SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 531, Government Code, is
1-25 amended by adding Section 531.0319 to read as follows:

1-26 Sec. 531.0319. OUTREACH CAMPAIGNS FOR AGING ADULTS WITH
1-27 VISUAL IMPAIRMENTS. (a) The commission, in collaboration with the
1-28 Texas State Library and Archives Commission and other appropriate
1-29 state agencies, shall conduct public awareness and education
1-30 outreach campaigns designed to provide information relating to the
1-31 programs and resources available to aging adults who are blind or
1-32 visually impaired in this state. The campaigns must be:

1-33 (1) tailored to targeted populations, including:

1-34 (A) aging adults with or at risk of blindness or
1-35 visual impairment and the families and caregivers of those adults;

1-36 (B) health care providers, including home and
1-37 community-based services providers, health care facilities, and
1-38 emergency medical services providers;

1-39 (C) community and faith-based organizations; and

1-40 (D) the general public; and

1-41 (2) disseminated through methods appropriate for each
1-42 targeted population, including by:

1-43 (A) attending health fairs; and

1-44 (B) working with organizations or groups that
1-45 serve aging adults, including community clinics, libraries,
1-46 support groups for aging adults, veterans organizations,
1-47 for-profit providers of vision services, and the state and local
1-48 chapters of the National Federation of the Blind.

1-49 (b) To support campaigns conducted under this section, the
1-50 commission shall:

1-51 (1) establish a toll-free telephone number for
1-52 providing counseling and referrals to appropriate services for
1-53 aging adults who are blind or visually impaired;

1-54 (2) post on the commission's Internet website
1-55 information and training resources for aging adults, community
1-56 stakeholders, and health care and other service providers that
1-57 generally serve aging adults, including:

1-58 (A) links to Internet websites that contain
1-59 resources for persons who are blind or visually impaired;

1-60 (B) existing videos that provide awareness of

2-1 blindness and visual impairments among aging adults and the
2-2 importance of early intervention;
2-3 (C) best practices for referring aging adults at
2-4 risk of blindness or visual impairment for appropriate services;
2-5 and
2-6 (D) training about resources available for aging
2-7 adults who are blind or visually impaired for the staff of aging and
2-8 disability resource centers established under the Aging and
2-9 Disability Resource Center initiative funded in part by the federal
2-10 Administration on Aging and the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid
2-11 Services;
2-12 (3) designate a contact in the commission to assist
2-13 aging adults who are diagnosed with a visual impairment and are
2-14 losing vision and the families of those adults with locating and
2-15 obtaining appropriate services; and
2-16 (4) encourage awareness of the reading services for
2-17 persons who are blind or visually impaired that are offered by the
2-18 Texas State Library and Archives Commission.
2-19 (c) The executive commissioner may adopt rules necessary to
2-20 implement this section.
2-21 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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