

1-1 By: Parker, Sanford, Frank H.B. No. 1516
 1-2 (Senate Sponsor - Springer)
 1-3 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 17, 2021;
 1-4 May 17, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Health &
 1-5 Human Services; May 22, 2021, reported favorably by the following
 1-6 vote: Yeas 6, Nays 3; May 22, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

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

1-18 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-19 AN ACT

1-20 relating to efficiency audits of the Temporary Assistance for Needy
 1-21 Families program and the state temporary assistance and support
 1-22 services program.

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

1-24 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 531, Government Code, is
 1-25 amended by adding Section 531.005522 to read as follows:

1-26 Sec. 531.005522. EFFICIENCY AUDIT. (a) For purposes of
 1-27 this section, "efficiency audit" means an investigation of the
 1-28 implementation and administration of the federal Temporary
 1-29 Assistance for Needy Families program operated under Chapter 31,
 1-30 Human Resources Code, and the state temporary assistance and
 1-31 support services program operated under Chapter 34, Human Resources
 1-32 Code, to examine fiscal management, efficiency of the use of
 1-33 resources, and the effectiveness of state efforts in achieving the
 1-34 goals of the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program
 1-35 described under 42 U.S.C. Section 601(a).

1-36 (b) In 2022 and every sixth year after that year, an
 1-37 external auditor selected under Subsection (e) shall conduct an
 1-38 efficiency audit.

1-39 (c) The commission shall pay the costs associated with an
 1-40 efficiency audit required under this section using existing
 1-41 resources.

1-42 (d) The state auditor shall ensure that the external auditor
 1-43 conducts the efficiency audit in accordance with the requirements
 1-44 of this section.

1-45 (e) Not later than March 1 of the year in which an efficiency
 1-46 audit is required under this section, the state auditor shall
 1-47 select an external auditor to conduct the efficiency audit.

1-48 (f) The external auditor shall be independent and not
 1-49 subject to direction from:

1-50 (1) the commission; or

1-51 (2) any other state agency subject to evaluation by
 1-52 the auditor for purposes of this section or that receives or spends
 1-53 money under the programs described by Subsection (a).

1-54 (g) The external auditor shall complete the audit not later
 1-55 than the 90th day after the date the auditor is selected.

1-56 (h) The Legislative Budget Board shall establish the scope
 1-57 of the efficiency audit and determine the areas of investigation
 1-58 for the audit, including:

1-59 (1) reviewing the resources dedicated to a program
 1-60 described by Subsection (a) to determine whether those resources:

1-61 (A) are being used effectively and efficiently to

2-1 achieve desired outcomes for individuals receiving benefits under a
 2-2 program; and
 2-3 (B) are not being used for purposes other than
 2-4 the intended goals of the applicable program;
 2-5 (2) identifying cost savings or reallocations of
 2-6 resources; and
 2-7 (3) identifying opportunities for improving services
 2-8 through consolidation of essential functions, outsourcing, and
 2-9 elimination of duplicative efforts.
 2-10 (i) Not later than November 1 of the year an efficiency
 2-11 audit is conducted, the external auditor shall prepare and submit a
 2-12 report of the audit and recommendations for efficiency improvements
 2-13 to the governor, the Legislative Budget Board, the state auditor,
 2-14 the executive commissioner, and the chairs of the House Human
 2-15 Services Committee and the Senate Health and Human Services
 2-16 Committee. The executive commissioner and the state auditor shall
 2-17 publish the report, recommendations, and full audit on the
 2-18 commission's and the state auditor's Internet websites.

2-19 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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