

1-1 By: Springer, West S.B. No. 1803
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 7, 2023; March 20, 2023, read
 1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Local Government;
 1-4 April 17, 2023, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 8,
 1-5 Nays 0; April 17, 2023, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
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 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the effectiveness of state-funded homelessness
 1-20 programs at helping beneficiaries advance toward self-sufficiency.

1-21 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-22 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 2306, Government Code, is
 1-23 amended by adding Section 2306.084 to read as follows:

1-24 Sec. 2306.084. STATEWIDE HOMELESSNESS SERVICES AUDIT. (a)
 1-25 In 2024 and every second year after that year, the state auditor
 1-26 shall conduct an effectiveness and efficiency audit of all services
 1-27 for the homeless provided by agencies of this state.

1-28 (b) The cost of the audit shall be paid for using existing
 1-29 resources allocated for the purpose of auditing the agencies
 1-30 identified in Subsection (g).

1-31 (c) Not later than March 1 of the year in which an audit is
 1-32 required under this section, the state auditor shall engage an
 1-33 external auditor to conduct the audit.

1-34 (d) The state auditor shall oversee the external auditor and
 1-35 ensure that the audit is conducted in accordance with the
 1-36 requirements of this section.

1-37 (e) The external auditor shall be independent and not
 1-38 subject to direction from any state agency subject to evaluation by
 1-39 the auditor for purposes of this section.

1-40 (f) The audit shall:

1-41 (1) examine all state resources, including but not
 1-42 limited to financial resources, manpower, and infrastructure used
 1-43 in providing services to the homeless;

1-44 (2) assess the effectiveness of state agencies,
 1-45 programs, and community service providers receiving state funds at
 1-46 helping the homeless achieve self-sufficiency, including the
 1-47 following outcomes:

1-48 (A) the percentage of beneficiaries who secure
 1-49 and maintain housing for which they are the primary payer;

1-50 (B) the percentage of beneficiaries whose
 1-51 children regularly attend school or other educational programs;

1-52 (C) the percentage of beneficiaries who
 1-53 participate in at least 20 hours per week of paid public or private
 1-54 sector work, including paid apprenticeships;

1-55 (D) the percentage of beneficiaries engaged in
 1-56 occupational or vocational training programs;

1-57 (E) the percentage of beneficiaries who move from
 1-58 subsidized income to earned income as a primary source of earnings;

1-59 (F) the percentage of beneficiaries who have
 1-60 regular visits with a primary care physician;

1-61 (G) the percentage of beneficiaries with mental

2-1 health needs who engage in regular mental health care services;
2-2 (H) the percentage of beneficiaries with
2-3 addiction or substance use disorder who engage in regular treatment
2-4 services; and
2-5 (I) the percentage of beneficiaries without
2-6 involvement with the criminal justice system;
2-7 (3) rate each agency, program, and community service
2-8 provider reviewed as "unsatisfactory," "satisfactory," or
2-9 "exemplary" based on their effectiveness at achieving the outcomes
2-10 under Subsection (f)(2); and
2-11 (4) make recommendations for:
2-12 (A) eliminating poorly performing programs;
2-13 (B) ending contractual or funding relationships
2-14 with poorly performing community service providers;
2-15 (C) consolidating duplicative or overlapping
2-16 services and functions; and
2-17 (D) reallocating state resources to ensure that
2-18 the outcomes under Subsection (f)(2) are achieved in the most
2-19 effective and economical manner.
2-20 (g) The following agencies must be included in the audit:
2-21 (1) Texas Department of Housing and Community Affairs;
2-22 (2) Texas Health and Human Services Commission;
2-23 (3) Texas Department of Family and Protective
2-24 Services;
2-25 (4) Texas Education Agency;
2-26 (5) Texas Workforce Commission;
2-27 (6) Texas Veterans Commission; and
2-28 (7) Texas Department of Criminal Justice.
2-29 (h) The state auditor may select other agencies or programs
2-30 in addition to those listed in Subsection (g) for inclusion in the
2-31 audit.
2-32 (i) The external auditor must complete the audit not later
2-33 than the 90th day after the date the auditor is engaged and present
2-34 its results and recommendations to the state auditor and the heads
2-35 of the agencies subject to the audit.
2-36 (j) Not later than November 1 of the calendar year in which
2-37 an audit is completed, the state auditor shall prepare and submit a
2-38 report of the audit and recommendations for improvement to the
2-39 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, the
2-40 lieutenant governor, and the Legislative Budget Board.
2-41 (k) The full audit and state auditor's report must be
2-42 published to the state auditor's Internet website.
2-43 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.

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