

By: González of Dallas

H.B. No. 1203

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the establishment of the office of food system security
3 and resiliency in the Department of Agriculture and the management
4 of the Texas food system security and resiliency planning council.

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

6 SECTION 1. Chapter 12, Agriculture Code, is amended by
7 adding Section 12.052 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 12.052. OFFICE OF FOOD SYSTEM SECURITY AND RESILIENCY.

9 (a) In this section, "office" means the office of food system

10 security and resiliency established by this section.

11 (b) The office of food system security and resiliency is
12 established as a division within the department.

13 (c) The office is responsible for food system security and
14 resiliency in this state, including:

1 municipalities, school districts, and local governments; and
2 (5) promoting policies to establish more localized
3 food markets or food access points through measures such as:
4 (A) connecting retailers, distributors,
5 municipalities, counties, school districts, and other local
6 governments to local producers; and
7 (B) collaborating with local stakeholders to
8 expand food access across this state.

9 (d) The office shall, not later than December 1 of each
10 even-numbered year, make recommendations to the legislature for
11 legislation that may improve food system security and resiliency in
12 this state.

13 (e) The office shall manage the Texas food system security
14 and resiliency planning council under Chapter 23.

15 SECTION 2. Section 23.001(2), Agriculture Code, is amended
16 to read as follows:

17 (2) "Office" means [~~+~~]
18 [(A)] the office of food system security and
19 resiliency under Section 12.052 [~~if that office is established as a~~
20 ~~division within the department by an Act of the 88th Legislature,~~
21 ~~Regular Session, 2023, or~~
22 [(B) the food and nutrition division of the
23 ~~department if the office of food system security and resiliency is~~
24 ~~not established as a division within the department by an Act of the~~
25 ~~88th Legislature, Regular Session, 2023].~~

26 SECTION 3. (a) Not later than December 31, 2025, the
27 Department of Agriculture shall establish the office of food system

H.B. No. 1203

1 security and resiliency under Section 12.052, Agriculture Code, as
2 added by this Act.

3 (b) The food and nutrition division of the Department of
4 Agriculture shall continue to manage the Texas food system security
5 and resiliency planning council until the department establishes
6 the office of food system security and resiliency.

7 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.