

By: Jones of Harris

H.B. No. 1571

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to access to and notification of protective order registry
3 information.

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

5 SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as Anthony's Law.

6 SECTION 2. Section 72.155, Government Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 Sec. 72.155. RESTRICTED ACCESS TO PROTECTIVE ORDER
9 REGISTRY. (a) The registry must include a copy of each
10 application for a protective order filed in this state and a copy of
11 each protective order issued in this state, including an expired
12 order, or a vacated order other than an order that was vacated as
13 the result of an appeal or bill of review from a district or county
14 court. Only an authorized user, the attorney general, a district
15 attorney, a criminal district attorney, a county attorney, a
16 municipal attorney, an attorney representing a party in a civil
17 action, a victim of family violence or of an offense for which a
18 protective order may be granted under Chapter 7B, Code of Criminal
19 Procedure, who is representing himself or herself in a civil
20 action, a magistrate, or a peace officer may access that
21 information under the registry.

22 (b) The office shall ensure that an authorized user, the
23 attorney general, a district attorney, a criminal district
24 attorney, a county attorney, a municipal attorney, an attorney

1 representing a party in a civil action, a victim of family violence
2 or of an offense for which a protective order may be granted under
3 Chapter 7B, Code of Criminal Procedure, who is representing himself
4 or herself in a civil action, a magistrate, or a peace officer is
5 able to search for and receive a copy of a filed application for a
6 protective order or a copy of an issued protective order through the
7 registry's Internet website.

8 SECTION 3. Subchapter F, Chapter 72, Government Code, is
9 amended by adding Section 72.1555 to read as follows:

10 Sec. 72.1555. ACCESS TO AND NOTIFICATION OF CERTAIN
11 REGISTRY INFORMATION. (a) The protective order registry must be
12 configured to provide access to information in the registry to:

13 (1) a court with jurisdiction over a case in which a
14 person who is subject to a protective order appears related to a
15 civil violation of the protective order or for any criminal
16 offense;

17 (2) the attorney general or a district attorney,
18 criminal district attorney, county attorney, or municipal attorney
19 who is prosecuting a person who is subject to the protective order;

20 (3) an attorney representing a party in a civil action
21 or a victim of family violence or of an offense for which a
22 protective order may be granted under Chapter 7B, Code of Criminal
23 Procedure, who is representing himself or herself in a civil
24 action; or

25 (4) a peace officer who is investigating a person who
26 is subject to the protective order.

27 (b) If a person subject to a protective order issued by a

1 court appears in a court of another county for a civil violation of
2 the protective order or any criminal offense, the registry must be
3 configured to provide notice to the court that issued the
4 protective order of:

5 (1) the time, place, and nature of the person's
6 violation or offense;

7 (2) the name and location of the court with
8 jurisdiction over the violation or offense;

9 (3) the name and contact information of the attorney
10 general or the district attorney, criminal district attorney,
11 county attorney, or municipal attorney who is prosecuting the
12 violation or offense; and

13 (4) the name and contact information of any peace
14 officer whose information is included in the registry as the
15 investigator for the violation or offense.

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