

By: Shapiro

S.B. No. 1093

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the civil commitment of sexually violent predators.

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

SECTION 1. Subdivision (4), Section 841.002, Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(4) "Council" means the [~~Interagency~~] Council on Sex Offender Treatment.

SECTION 2. Sections 841.005, 841.006, and 841.007, Health and Safety Code, are amended to read as follows:

Sec. 841.005. OFFICE OF STATE COUNSEL FOR OFFENDERS.

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), the [The] Office of State Counsel for Offenders shall represent an indigent [a] person subject to a civil commitment proceeding under this chapter.

(b) If for any reason the Office of State Counsel for Offenders is unable to represent an indigent person described by Subsection (a) at a civil commitment proceeding under this chapter, the court shall appoint other counsel to represent the indigent person.

Sec. 841.006. APPLICATION OF CHAPTER. This chapter does not:

(1) prohibit a person committed under this chapter from filing at any time a petition for release under this chapter; or

(2) create for the committed person a cause of action

1 against another person for failure to give notice within a period  
2 required by Subchapter B, C, or D.

3 Sec. 841.007. DUTIES OF [~~INTERAGENCY~~] COUNCIL ON SEX  
4 OFFENDER TREATMENT. The [~~Interagency~~] Council on Sex Offender  
5 Treatment is responsible for providing appropriate and necessary  
6 treatment and supervision through the case management system.

7 SECTION 3. Section 841.022, Health and Safety Code, is  
8 amended to read as follows:

9 Sec. 841.022. MULTIDISCIPLINARY TEAM. (a) The executive  
10 director of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice and the  
11 commissioner of the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental  
12 Retardation jointly shall establish a multidisciplinary team to  
13 review available records of a person referred to the team under  
14 Section 841.021. The team must include:

15 (1) two persons from the Texas Department of Mental  
16 Health and Mental Retardation;

17 (2) two [~~three~~] persons from the Texas Department of  
18 Criminal Justice, one of whom must be from the victim services  
19 office of that department;

20 (3) one person from the Texas Department of Public  
21 Safety; and

22 (4) two persons [~~one person~~] from the council or  
23 council personnel.

24 (b) The multidisciplinary team may request the assistance  
25 of other persons in making an assessment [~~a determination~~] under  
26 this section.

27 (c) Not later than the 60th [~~30th~~] day after the date the

1 multidisciplinary team receives notice under Section 841.021(a) or  
2 (b), the team shall:

3 (1) assess [~~determine~~] whether the person is a repeat  
4 sexually violent offender and whether the person is likely to  
5 commit a sexually violent offense after release or discharge;

6 (2) give notice of that assessment [~~determination~~] to  
7 the Texas Department of Criminal Justice or the Texas Department of  
8 Mental Health and Mental Retardation, as appropriate; and

9 (3) recommend the assessment of the person for a  
10 behavioral abnormality, as appropriate.

11 SECTION 4. Section 841.023, Health and Safety Code, is  
12 amended to read as follows:

13 Sec. 841.023. ASSESSMENT FOR BEHAVIORAL ABNORMALITY.

14 (a) Not later than the 60th [~~30th~~] day after the date of a  
15 recommendation under Section 841.022(c), the Texas Department of  
16 Criminal Justice or the Texas Department of Mental Health and  
17 Mental Retardation, as appropriate, shall assess [~~determine~~]  
18 whether the person suffers from a behavioral abnormality that makes  
19 the person likely to engage in a predatory act of sexual violence.  
20 To aid in the assessment [~~determination~~], the department required  
21 to make the assessment [~~determination~~] shall use an expert to  
22 examine the person. That department may contract for the expert  
23 services required by this subsection. The expert shall make a  
24 clinical assessment based on testing for psychopathy, a clinical  
25 interview, and other appropriate assessments and techniques to aid  
26 the department in its assessment [~~the determination~~].

27 (b) If as a result of the assessment the Texas Department of

1 Criminal Justice or the Texas Department of Mental Health and  
2 Mental Retardation believes [~~determines~~] that the person suffers  
3 from a behavioral abnormality, the department making the assessment  
4 [~~determination~~] shall give notice of that assessment  
5 [~~determination~~] and provide corresponding documentation to the  
6 attorney representing the state not later than the 60th [~~30th~~] day  
7 after the date of a recommendation under Section 841.022(c).

8 SECTION 5. Subsection (b), Section 841.041, Health and  
9 Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

10 (b) A petition described by Subsection (a) must be:

11 (1) filed not later than the 90th [~~60th~~] day after the  
12 date the person is referred to the attorney representing the state;  
13 and

14 (2) served on the person as soon as practicable after  
15 the date the petition is filed.

16 SECTION 6. Section 841.061, Health and Safety Code, is  
17 amended by amending Subsections (a), (c), and (d) and adding  
18 Subsection (f) to read as follows:

19 (a) Not later than the 270th [~~60th~~] day after the date a  
20 petition is served on the person [~~filed~~] under Section 841.041, the  
21 judge shall conduct a trial to determine whether the person is a  
22 sexually violent predator.

23 (c) The person and the state are each entitled to an  
24 immediate examination of the person by an expert. All components of  
25 the examination must be completed not later than the 90th day before  
26 the date the trial begins.

27 (d) Additional rights of the person at the trial include the

1 following:

- 2 (1) the right to appear at the trial;
- 3 (2) except as provided by Subsection (f), the right to  
4 present evidence on the person's behalf;
- 5 (3) the right to cross-examine a witness who testifies  
6 against the person; and
- 7 (4) the right to view and copy all petitions and  
8 reports in the court file.

9 (f) A person who is on trial to determine the person's  
10 status as a sexually violent predator is required to submit to all  
11 expert examinations that are required or permitted of the state to  
12 prepare for the person's trial. A person who fails to submit to  
13 expert examination on the state's behalf as required by this  
14 subsection is subject to the following consequences:

15 (1) the person's failure to participate may be used as  
16 evidence against the person at trial;

17 (2) the person may be prohibited from offering into  
18 evidence the results of an expert examination performed on the  
19 person's behalf; and

20 (3) the person may be subject to contempt proceedings  
21 if the person violates a court order by failing to submit to an  
22 expert examination on the state's behalf.

23 SECTION 7. Section 841.063, Health and Safety Code, is  
24 amended to read as follows:

25 Sec. 841.063. CONTINUANCE. The judge may continue a trial  
26 or hearing conducted under this chapter [~~Section 841.061~~] if the  
27 person is not substantially prejudiced by the continuance and:

1           (1) on the request of either party and a showing of  
2 good cause; or

3           (2) on the judge's own motion in the due administration  
4 of justice.

5           SECTION 8. Section 841.081, Health and Safety Code, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7           Sec. 841.081. CIVIL COMMITMENT OF PREDATOR. (a) If at a  
8 trial conducted under Subchapter D the judge or jury determines  
9 that the person is a sexually violent predator, the judge shall  
10 commit the person for outpatient treatment and supervision to be  
11 coordinated by the case manager. The commitment order is effective  
12 immediately on entry of the order, except that the ~~[The]~~ outpatient  
13 treatment and supervision begins ~~[must begin]~~ on the person's  
14 release from a secure correctional facility or discharge from a  
15 state hospital and continues ~~[must continue]~~ until the person's  
16 behavioral abnormality has changed to the extent that the person is  
17 no longer likely to engage in a predatory act of sexual violence.

18           (b) At any time after entry of a commitment order under  
19 Subsection (a), the case manager may provide to the person  
20 instruction regarding the requirements associated with the order,  
21 regardless of whether the person is incarcerated at the time of the  
22 instruction.

23           SECTION 9. Section 841.082, Health and Safety Code, is  
24 amended to read as follows:

25           Sec. 841.082. COMMITMENT REQUIREMENTS. (a) Before  
26 entering an order directing a person's outpatient civil commitment,  
27 the judge shall impose on the person requirements necessary to

1 ensure the person's compliance with treatment and supervision and  
2 to protect the community. The requirements shall include:

3 (1) requiring the person to reside in a particular  
4 location;

5 (2) prohibiting the person's contact with a victim or  
6 potential victim of the person;

7 (3) prohibiting the person's use of alcohol or a  
8 controlled substance;

9 (4) requiring the person's participation in a specific  
10 course of treatment;

11 (5) requiring the person to submit to tracking under a  
12 particular type of tracking service and to any other appropriate  
13 supervision;

14 (6) prohibiting the person from changing the person's  
15 residence without prior authorization from the judge and from  
16 leaving the state without that prior authorization;

17 (7) if determined appropriate by the judge,  
18 establishing a child safety zone in the same manner as a child  
19 safety zone is established by a judge under Section 13B, Article  
20 42.12, Code of Criminal Procedure, and requiring the person to  
21 comply with requirements related to the safety zone;

22 (8) requiring the person to notify the case manager  
23 immediately but in any event within 24 [~~48~~] hours of any change in  
24 the person's status that affects proper treatment and supervision,  
25 including a change in the person's physical health or job status and  
26 including any incarceration of the person; and

27 (9) any other requirements determined necessary by the

1 judge.

2 (b) The judge may request assistance from the council in  
3 determining an appropriate residence for the person.

4 (c) The judge shall provide a copy of the requirements  
5 imposed under Subsection (a) to the person and to the council. The  
6 council shall provide a copy of those requirements to the case  
7 manager and to the service providers.

8 (d) [~~(c)~~] Immediately after the case becomes final for  
9 purposes of appeal [~~person's commitment~~], the judge shall transfer  
10 jurisdiction of the case to a district court, other than a family  
11 district court, having jurisdiction in the county in which the  
12 person [~~defendant~~] is residing, except that the judge retains  
13 jurisdiction of the case with respect to a civil commitment  
14 proceeding conducted under Subchapters F and G.

15 (e) The requirements imposed under Subsection (a) may be  
16 modified at any time after notice to each affected party to the  
17 proceedings and a hearing.

18 SECTION 10. Subsections (b), (c), and (d), Section 841.083,  
19 Health and Safety Code, are amended to read as follows:

20 (b) The case manager shall provide supervision to the  
21 person. The provision of supervision shall include a tracking  
22 service [~~services~~] and, if required by court order, supervised  
23 housing.

24 (c) The council shall enter into an interagency agreement  
25 with the Texas Department of Public Safety for the provision of a  
26 tracking service [~~services~~]. If the equipment necessary to  
27 implement that service is available through a contract entered into



1 ~~by [The Department of Public Safety shall contract with]~~ the Texas  
2 Building and Procurement [General Services] Commission, the  
3 Department of Public Safety shall acquire that equipment through  
4 that contract [for the equipment necessary to implement those  
5 services].

6 (d) The council shall enter into an interagency agreement  
7 with the Texas Department of Criminal Justice [contract] for any  
8 necessary supervised housing. The council shall reimburse that  
9 department for housing costs under this section. The committed  
10 person may not be housed for any period of time in a mental health  
11 facility, state school, or community center. In this subsection:

12 (1) "Community center" means a center established  
13 under Subchapter A, Chapter 534.

14 (2) "Mental health facility" has the meaning assigned  
15 by Section 571.003.

16 (3) "State school" has the meaning assigned by Section  
17 531.002.

18 SECTION 11. Section 841.084, Health and Safety Code, is  
19 amended to read as follows:

20 Sec. 841.084. ~~[PROVIDER]~~ STATUS REPORTS. A treatment  
21 provider or tracking service personnel [a supervision provider]  
22 other than the case manager shall submit, monthly or more  
23 frequently if required by the case manager, a report to the case  
24 manager stating whether the person is complying with treatment or  
25 tracking [supervision] requirements, as applicable.

26 SECTION 12. Subsection (a), Section 841.141, Health and  
27 Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

1 (a) The council by rule shall administer treatment and  
2 supervision under this chapter. Rules adopted by the council under  
3 this section must be:

4 (1) related to treatment and supervision under this  
5 chapter; and

6 (2) consistent with the purposes of this chapter.

7 SECTION 13. Subsections (a), (c), and (d), Section 841.142,  
8 Health and Safety Code, are amended to read as follows:

9 (a) To protect the public and to enable an assessment or [a]  
10 determination relating to whether a person is a sexually violent  
11 predator, any entity that possesses relevant information relating  
12 to the person shall release the information to an entity charged  
13 with making an assessment or [a] determination under this chapter.

14 (c) On the written request of any attorney for another state  
15 or for a political subdivision in another state, the Texas  
16 Department of Criminal Justice, the council, a service provider  
17 contracting with one of those agencies, the multidisciplinary team,  
18 and the attorney representing the state shall release to the  
19 attorney any available information relating to a person that is  
20 sought in connection with an attempt to civilly commit the person as  
21 a sexually violent predator in another state.

22 (d) To protect the public and to enable an assessment or [a]  
23 determination relating to whether a person is a sexually violent  
24 predator or to enable the provision of supervision and treatment to  
25 a person who is a sexually violent predator, the Texas Department of  
26 Criminal Justice, the council, a service provider contracting with  
27 one of those agencies, the multidisciplinary team, and the attorney

1 representing the state may exchange any available information  
2 relating to the person.

3 SECTION 14. Section 841.144, Health and Safety Code, is  
4 amended to read as follows:

5 Sec. 841.144. COUNSEL. (a) Immediately after the filing  
6 of a petition under Section 841.041 [~~At all stages of the civil~~  
7 ~~commitment proceedings under this chapter~~], a person subject to a  
8 civil commitment proceeding under this chapter is entitled to the  
9 assistance of counsel at all stages of the proceeding.

10 (b) If the person is indigent, the court shall appoint  
11 counsel as appropriate under Section 841.005 [~~through the Office of~~  
12 ~~State Counsel for Offenders~~] to assist the person.

13 SECTION 15. Subsections (b) and (c), Section 841.146,  
14 Health and Safety Code, are amended to read as follows:

15 (b) Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, a [A]  
16 civil commitment proceeding is subject to the rules of procedure  
17 and appeal for civil cases. To the extent of any conflict between  
18 this chapter and the rules of procedure and appeal for civil cases,  
19 this chapter controls.

20 (c) In an amount not to exceed \$1,600, the State of Texas  
21 [~~state~~] shall pay all [~~the~~] costs associated with [~~of~~] a civil  
22 commitment proceeding conducted under Subchapter D. The State of  
23 Texas [~~For any civil commitment proceeding conducted under this~~  
24 ~~chapter, the state~~] shall pay the reasonable costs of state or  
25 appointed counsel or experts for any other civil commitment  
26 proceeding conducted under this chapter and shall pay the  
27 reasonable costs of the person's outpatient treatment and

1 supervision.

2 SECTION 16. Subchapter H, Chapter 841, Health and Safety  
3 Code, is amended by adding Sections 841.1461, 841.1462, 841.1463,  
4 and 841.150 to read as follows:

5 Sec. 841.1461. CERTAIN EXPERT TESTIMONY NOT REQUIRED FOR  
6 CIVIL COMMITMENT OF SEXUALLY VIOLENT PREDATOR. A person who  
7 suffers from a behavioral abnormality as determined under this  
8 chapter is not because of that abnormality a person of unsound mind  
9 for purposes of Section 15-a, Article I, Texas Constitution.

10 Sec. 841.1462. PRIVILEGE FOR PERSONAL INFORMATION THAT  
11 IDENTIFIES VICTIM. Personal information, including a home address,  
12 home telephone number, and social security account number, that  
13 identifies the victim of a person subject to a civil commitment  
14 proceeding under this chapter is privileged from discovery by that  
15 person.

16 Sec. 841.1463. FAILURE TO GIVE NOTICE WITHIN RELEVANT  
17 PERIOD NOT JURISDICTIONAL ERROR. The periods within which notice  
18 must be given under this chapter are binding on all appropriate  
19 persons as provided by this chapter, but a failure to give notice  
20 within the relevant period is not a jurisdictional error.

21 Sec. 841.150. EFFECT OF CERTAIN SUBSEQUENT CONVICTIONS,  
22 JUDGMENTS, OR VERDICTS ON ORDER OF CIVIL COMMITMENT. (a) Except  
23 as provided by Subsection (b), the following convictions,  
24 judgments, or verdicts do not affect an order of civil commitment  
25 under this chapter:

26 (1) a conviction for a felony if a sentence is not  
27 imposed;

1           (2) a conviction for a misdemeanor, regardless of  
2 whether a sentence is imposed; and

3           (3) a judgment or verdict of not guilty by reason of  
4 insanity for any offense absent a corresponding commitment to the  
5 Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental Retardation.

6           (b) The statutory duties imposed by this chapter are  
7 suspended for the duration of any confinement of a person who  
8 receives a conviction described by Subsection (a)(2).

9           SECTION 17. Section 841.147, Health and Safety Code, is  
10 amended to read as follows:

11           Sec. 841.147. IMMUNITY. The following persons are immune  
12 from liability for good faith conduct under this chapter:

13           (1) an employee or officer of the Texas Department of  
14 Criminal Justice, the Texas Department of Mental Health and Mental  
15 Retardation, the Texas Department of Health, or the council;

16           (2) a member of the multidisciplinary team established  
17 under Section 841.022;

18           (3) an employee of the division of the prison  
19 prosecution unit charged with initiating and pursuing civil  
20 commitment proceedings under this chapter [~~the attorney~~  
21 ~~representing the state~~]; and

22           (4) a person contracting, appointed, or volunteering  
23 to perform a service under this chapter.

24           SECTION 18. The change in law made by this Act applies to  
25 civil commitment proceedings initiated before, on, or after the  
26 effective date of this Act.

27           SECTION 19. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.