

By: Goolsby

H.B. No. 291

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to victim notification regarding the release of certain  
3 defendants following acquittal by reason of insanity.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 4(d), Article 46.03, Code of Criminal  
6 Procedure, is amended by adding Subdivision (8) to read as follows:

7 (8) Victim Notification of Release. If the court  
8 issues an order under Subdivision (4) or (5) that requires the  
9 release of an acquitted person on discharge or on a regimen of  
10 outpatient care, the clerk of the court issuing the order, using the  
11 information provided on any victim impact statement received by the  
12 court under Article 56.03 or other information made available to  
13 the court, shall provide name, address, and phone number  
14 information to the Texas Department of Criminal Justice victim  
15 services division to enable the division to notify the victim or the  
16 victim's guardian or close relative of the release. The victim  
17 services division shall notify any victim or guardian or close  
18 relative named in the victim impact statement or other information.  
19 Notwithstanding Article 56.03(f), the clerk of the court may  
20 inspect a victim impact statement for the purpose of notification  
21 under this subdivision.

22 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.