

By: Keel

H.B. No. 1847

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the definition of victim in relation to certain crime  
3 victim's rights.

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

5 SECTION 1. Article 56.01, Code of Criminal Procedure, is  
6 amended to read as follows:

7 Art. 56.01. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

8 (1) "Close relative of a deceased victim" means a  
9 person who was the spouse of a deceased victim at the time of the  
10 victim's death or who is a parent or adult brother, sister, or child  
11 of the deceased victim.

12 (2) "Guardian of a victim" means a person who is the  
13 legal guardian of the victim, whether or not the legal relationship  
14 between the guardian and victim exists because of the age of the  
15 victim or the physical or mental incompetency of the victim.

16 (3) "Victim" means a person who:

17 (A) is the victim of sexual assault, kidnapping,  
18 or aggravated robbery;

19 (B) ~~[or who]~~ has suffered bodily injury or death  
20 as a result of the criminal conduct of another; or

21 (C) has suffered mental or emotional harm as a  
22 direct result of a crime:

23 (i) committed against that person; or

24 (ii) witnessed by that person and committed

1 against a family member or friend of the person.

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