

By: Riddle

H.B. No. 1120

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the duties of the Texas Crime Stoppers Council to
3 encourage individuals to report criminal activity related to
4 trafficking of persons.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 414.005, Government Code, is amended to
7 read as follows:

8 Sec. 414.005. DUTIES. The council shall:

9 (1) encourage, advise, and assist in the creation of
10 crime stoppers organizations;

11 (2) foster the detection of crime and encourage
12 persons to report information about criminal acts;

13 (3) encourage news and other media to broadcast
14 reenactments and to inform the public of the functions of crime
15 stoppers organizations' operations and programs;

16 (4) promote the process of crime stoppers
17 organizations to forward information about criminal acts to the
18 appropriate law enforcement agencies;

19 (5) help law enforcement agencies detect and combat
20 crime by increasing the flow of information to and between law
21 enforcement agencies;

22 (6) create specialized programs targeted at detecting
23 specific crimes or types of crimes, including at least one program
24 that:

1 (A) encourages individuals to report sex
2 offenders who have failed to register under Chapter 62, Code of
3 Criminal Procedure; ~~and~~

4 (B) encourages individuals to report criminal
5 activity relating to the trafficking of persons, as described under
6 Chapter 20A, Penal Code; and

7 (C) financially rewards each individual who
8 makes a report described by Paragraph (A) or (B) that leads or
9 substantially contributes to the arrest or apprehension:

10 (i) of a sex offender who has failed to
11 register under Chapter 62, Code of Criminal Procedure; or

12 (ii) of a person suspected of engaging in
13 conduct that constitutes an offense under Chapter 20A, Penal Code;
14 and

15 (7) encourage, advise, and assist crime stoppers
16 organizations in implementing any programs created under
17 Subdivision (6), including a program specifically described by
18 Subdivision (6).

19 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
20 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
21 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
22 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
23 Act takes effect September 1, 2013.