

By: Burkett

H.B. No. 2393

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to training for certain health and human services
3 personnel to identify and assist victims of human trafficking.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 402.035(d), Government Code, is amended
6 to read as follows:

7 (d) The task force shall:

8 (1) collaborate, as needed to fulfill the duties of
9 the task force, with:

10 (A) United States attorneys for the districts of
11 Texas; and

12 (B) special agents or customs and border
13 protection officers and border patrol agents of:

14 (i) the Federal Bureau of Investigation;

15 (ii) the United States Drug Enforcement
16 Administration;

17 (iii) the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
18 Firearms and Explosives;

19 (iv) the United States Immigration and
20 Customs Enforcement Agency; or

21 (v) the United States Department of
22 Homeland Security;

23 (2) collect, organize, and periodically publish
24 statistical data on the nature and extent of human trafficking in

1 this state;

2 (3) solicit cooperation and assistance from state and
3 local governmental agencies, political subdivisions of the state,
4 nongovernmental organizations, and other persons, as appropriate,
5 for the purpose of collecting and organizing statistical data under
6 Subdivision (2);

7 (4) ensure that each state or local governmental
8 agency and political subdivision of the state that assists in the
9 prevention of human trafficking collects statistical data related
10 to human trafficking, including, as appropriate:

11 (A) the number of investigations concerning,
12 arrests and prosecutions for, and convictions of:

13 (i) the offense of trafficking of persons;
14 and

15 (ii) the offense of forgery or an offense
16 under Chapter 43, Penal Code, if committed as part of a criminal
17 episode involving the trafficking of persons;

18 (B) demographic information on persons who are
19 convicted of offenses described by Paragraph (A) and persons who
20 are the victims of those offenses;

21 (C) geographic routes by which human trafficking
22 victims are trafficked and geographic patterns in human
23 trafficking, including the country or state of origin and the
24 country or state of destination;

25 (D) means of transportation and methods used by
26 persons who engage in trafficking to transport their victims; and

27 (E) social and economic factors that create a

1 demand for the labor or services that victims of human trafficking
2 are forced to provide;

3 (5) work with the Commission on Law Enforcement
4 Officer Standards and Education to develop and conduct training for
5 law enforcement personnel, victim service providers, and medical
6 service providers to identify victims of human trafficking;

7 (6) on the request of a judge of a county court, county
8 court at law, or district court or a county attorney, district
9 attorney, or criminal district attorney, assist and train the judge
10 or the judge's staff or the attorney or the attorney's staff in the
11 recognition and prevention of human trafficking;

12 (7) examine training protocols related to human
13 trafficking issues, as developed and implemented by federal, state,
14 and local law enforcement agencies;

15 (8) collaborate with state and local governmental
16 agencies, political subdivisions of the state, and nongovernmental
17 organizations to implement a media awareness campaign in
18 communities affected by human trafficking;

19 (9) develop recommendations on how to strengthen state
20 and local efforts to prevent human trafficking, protect and assist
21 human trafficking victims, and prosecute human trafficking
22 offenders; ~~and~~

23 (10) examine the extent to which human trafficking is
24 associated with the operation of sexually oriented businesses, as
25 defined by Section 243.002, Local Government Code, and the
26 workplace or public health concerns that are created by the
27 association of human trafficking and the operation of sexually

1 oriented businesses; and

2 (11) work with the Health and Human Services
3 Commission and the Department of Family and Protective Services to
4 develop and conduct training for commission and department
5 personnel on identifying and assisting victims of human trafficking
6 that includes instruction on:

7 (A) recognition of human trafficking indicators;

8 (B) methods for identification of children in
9 foster care who may be at risk of becoming victims of human
10 trafficking; and

11 (C) a referral process for identified human
12 trafficking victims and individuals at risk of becoming victims.

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