

By: Hinojosa

S.B. No. 357

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the issuance of protective orders for certain sexual, stalking, and trafficking offenses.

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

SECTION 1. Article 7A.03, Code of Criminal Procedure, as amended by Chapters 135 (S.B. 250) and 238 (H.B. 649), Acts of the 82nd Legislature, Regular Session, 2011, is reenacted and amended to read as follows:

Art. 7A.03. REQUIRED FINDINGS; ISSUANCE OF PROTECTIVE ORDER. (a) At the close of a hearing on an application for a protective order under this chapter, the court shall find whether there are reasonable grounds to believe that the applicant is the victim of sexual assault or abuse, [~~or~~] stalking, or trafficking.

(b) If the court makes a finding described by Subsection (a) [~~(a)(1) or (2)~~], the court shall issue a protective order that includes a statement of the required findings.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act in amending Section 7A.03, Code of Criminal Procedure, applies only to a protective order issued on or after the effective date of this Act. A protective order issued before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the order is issued, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.