

1-1 By: Burkett, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Rodríguez) H.B. No. 2455
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 6, 2015;
1-3 May 6, 2015, read first time and referred to Committee on Criminal
1-4 Justice; May 14, 2015, reported adversely, with favorable
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 7, Nays 0;
1-6 May 14, 2015, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-8				
1-9	<u>Whitmire</u>	X		
1-10	<u>Huffman</u>	X		
1-11	<u>Burton</u>	X		
1-12	<u>Creighton</u>	X		
1-13	<u>Hinojosa</u>	X		
1-14	<u>Menéndez</u>	X		
1-15	<u>Perry</u>	X		

1-16 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR H.B. No. 2455 By: Whitmire

1-17 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-18 AN ACT

1-19 relating to the establishment of a task force to promote uniformity
1-20 in the collection and reporting of information relating to family
1-21 violence, sexual assault, stalking, and human trafficking.

1-22 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-23 SECTION 1. Chapter 72, Government Code, is amended by
1-24 adding Subchapter F to read as follows:

1-25 SUBCHAPTER F. TASK FORCE TO PROMOTE UNIFORMITY IN COLLECTION AND
1-26 REPORTING OF INFORMATION ON FAMILY VIOLENCE, SEXUAL ASSAULT,
1-27 STALKING, AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING

1-28 Sec. 72.101. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

1-29 (1) "Dating violence" has the meaning assigned by
1-30 Section 71.0021, Family Code.

1-31 (2) "Family violence" has the meaning assigned by
1-32 Section 71.004, Family Code.

1-33 (3) "Task force" means the task force established
1-34 under this subchapter to promote uniformity in the collection and
1-35 reporting of information relating to family violence, sexual
1-36 assault, stalking, and human trafficking.

1-37 Sec. 72.102. TASK FORCE MEMBERSHIP. (a) The task force
1-38 consists of:

1-39 (1) one member from the office, appointed by the
1-40 director;

1-41 (2) 16 members appointed by the presiding officer of
1-42 the task force as follows:

1-43 (A) one member from the bureau of identification
1-44 and records of the Department of Public Safety;

1-45 (B) one member from a statewide family violence
1-46 advocacy organization;

1-47 (C) one member from a statewide sexual assault
1-48 advocacy organization;

1-49 (D) one member who is a prosecuting attorney with
1-50 experience in obtaining protective orders in cases involving family
1-51 violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking;

1-52 (E) one member who is a magistrate with
1-53 experience in issuing orders for emergency protection under Article
1-54 17.292, Code of Criminal Procedure;

1-55 (F) one member who is a judge or an associate
1-56 judge with experience in issuing protective orders in cases
1-57 involving family violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human
1-58 trafficking;

1-59 (G) one member from The University of Texas
1-60 School of Law Domestic Violence Clinic;

2-1 (H) one member who is from an organization that
2-2 receives federal funding under the legal assistance for victims
2-3 grant program and who has expertise in issues related to family
2-4 violence, sexual assault, or stalking;
2-5 (I) two members from a law enforcement agency,
2-6 including one member who is a constable;
2-7 (J) one member from the Texas Center for the
2-8 Judiciary;
2-9 (K) one member from the Texas Municipal Courts
2-10 Education Center;
2-11 (L) one member from the Texas Justice Court
2-12 Training Center;
2-13 (M) one member from the County and District
2-14 Clerks' Association of Texas;
2-15 (N) one member from the child support division of
2-16 the office of the attorney general; and
2-17 (O) one member from the Texas Education Agency;
2-18 and
2-19 (3) any other member whom the presiding officer
2-20 determines to be appropriate and who consents to serve on the task
2-21 force.
2-22 (b) The presiding officer of the task force is the member
2-23 who represents the office.
2-24 (c) Appointed members of the task force serve at the will of
2-25 the appointing authority. A vacancy on the task force must be
2-26 filled in the same manner as the original appointment.
2-27 Sec. 72.103. MEETINGS; COMPENSATION. (a) The task force
2-28 shall meet at the call of the presiding officer.
2-29 (b) Members of the task force serve without compensation or
2-30 reimbursement for expenses.
2-31 Sec. 72.104. DUTIES. (a) The task force shall:
2-32 (1) solicit and receive reports and testimony from
2-33 individuals, state and local agencies, community-based
2-34 organizations, and other public and private organizations,
2-35 including:
2-36 (A) survivors of family violence, sexual
2-37 assault, stalking, or human trafficking;
2-38 (B) law enforcement officials whose duties
2-39 include submitting information to the Texas Crime Information
2-40 Center;
2-41 (C) individuals with technical expertise in and
2-42 familiarity with the programming and maintenance of the database
2-43 maintained by the Texas Crime Information Center;
2-44 (D) individuals with technical expertise in and
2-45 familiarity with the office's database on family violence; and
2-46 (E) individuals with expertise in issues related
2-47 to family violence, sexual assault, stalking, or human trafficking;
2-48 and
2-49 (2) develop policy recommendations and best practices
2-50 guidelines for the uniform collection and reporting of information
2-51 relating to:
2-52 (A) family violence, sexual assault, stalking,
2-53 and human trafficking; and
2-54 (B) the implementation of dating violence
2-55 training and awareness education in public schools under Section
2-56 37.0831, Education Code.
2-57 (b) In developing policy recommendations and best practices
2-58 guidelines under Subsection (a)(2), the task force shall examine
2-59 best practices regarding uniform data collection and reporting and
2-60 any studies or reports that the task force considers relevant.
2-61 Sec. 72.105. REPORT. Not later than September 1, 2016, the
2-62 task force shall prepare and submit to the governor, the lieutenant
2-63 governor, the speaker of the house of representatives, and the
2-64 appropriate standing committees of the legislature a report that
2-65 includes:
2-66 (1) a description of the activities of the task force;
2-67 (2) the findings and recommendations of the task
2-68 force, including the policy recommendations and best practices
2-69 guidelines developed by the task force under Section 72.104(a)(2);

3-1 and
3-2 (3) any other matter that the task force considers
3-3 appropriate.

3-4 Sec. 72.106. ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT. The office shall
3-5 provide reasonably necessary administrative and technical support
3-6 for the activities of the task force.

3-7 Sec. 72.107. ASSISTANCE WITH RECOMMENDATIONS. The office
3-8 shall seek the assistance of the task force before the office makes
3-9 any recommendation as a result of the work done by the task force.

3-10 Sec. 72.108. EXPIRATION DATE. The task force is abolished
3-11 and this subchapter expires on September 1, 2017.

3-12 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
3-13 of this Act, the appropriate persons shall appoint the members of
3-14 the task force created by Subchapter F, Chapter 72, Government
3-15 Code, as added by this Act.

3-16 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
3-17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
3-18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
3-19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
3-20 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.

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