

By: Hunter, Herrero

H.B. No. 2021

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the duration of certain protective orders against  
3 family violence.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 85.025(a-1), Family Code, is amended to  
6 read as follows:

7 (a-1) The court may render a protective order sufficient to  
8 protect the applicant and members of the applicant's family or  
9 household that is effective for a period that exceeds two years if  
10 the court finds that the person who is the subject of the protective  
11 order:

12 (1) committed an act constituting a felony offense  
13 involving family violence against the applicant or a member of the  
14 applicant's family or household, regardless of whether the person  
15 has been charged with or convicted of the offense;

16 (2) caused serious bodily injury to the applicant or a  
17 member of the applicant's family or household; or

18 (3) [~~(2)~~] was the subject of two or more previous  
19 protective orders rendered:

20 (A) to protect the person on whose behalf the  
21 current protective order is sought; and

22 (B) after a finding by the court that the subject  
23 of the protective order:

24 (i) has committed family violence; and

1                   (ii) is likely to commit family violence in  
2 the future.

3           SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
4 to an application for a protective order that is filed on or after  
5 the effective date of this Act. An application for a protective  
6 order filed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the  
7 law in effect on the date the application is filed, and the former  
8 law is continued in effect for that purpose.

9           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.