

By: Meyer

H.B. No. 2529

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to a presumption that certain conduct constitutes force,
3 fraud, or coercion for purposes of the offense of trafficking of
4 persons.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 20A.02, Penal Code, is amended by adding
7 Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

8 (a-1) For purposes of Subsection (a)(3), it is a rebuttable
9 presumption that the person used force, fraud, or coercion if the
10 person knowingly:

11 (1) destroys, conceals, confiscates, or withholds
12 from the trafficked person, or threatens to destroy, conceal,
13 confiscate, or withhold from the trafficked person, the trafficked
14 person's actual or purported:

15 (A) government records; or

16 (B) identifying information or documents; or

17 (2) receives any form of support, whether financial or
18 otherwise, from the proceeds of an activity described by Subsection
19 (a)(3).

20 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to
21 an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An
22 offense committed before the effective date of this Act is governed
23 by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed, and the
24 former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of

1 this section, an offense was committed before the effective date of
2 this Act if any element of the offense occurred before that date.

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