

By: Hinojosa, Nelson, Zaffirini

S.B. No. 712

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.