

AN ACT

relating to the duration of certain protective orders against family violence.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(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.

S.B. No. 712

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 712 passed the Senate on April 3, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 1.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 712 passed the House on May 9, 2017, by the following vote: Yeas 145, Nays 0, one present not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor