86R2621 TSR-D

By:  Hernandez H.B. No. 467

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to sexual assault and domestic violence awareness continuing education for cosmetology license holders.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 1602.354, Occupations Code, is amended by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsections (d) and (e) to read as follows:

(c)  The commission shall require continuing education programs under this chapter to include information on:

(1)  activities commonly associated with human trafficking;

(2)  recognition of potential victims of human trafficking; [~~and~~]

(3)  methods for assisting victims of human trafficking, including how to report human trafficking; and

(4)  sexual assault and domestic violence awareness.

(d)  A license holder subject to Subsection (a) who is also a peace officer licensed under Chapter 1701, or an educator certified under Subchapter B, Chapter 21, Education Code, is exempt from the portion of continuing education described by Subsection (c)(4).

(e)  The commission may waive the requirement that a license holder participate in the portion of continuing education described by Subsection (c)(4) if:

(1)  the commission determines that completion of the requirement will cause the person substantial financial hardship;

(2)  the person is serving in the United States armed forces; or

(3)  the person is incapacitated due to illness.

SECTION 2.  Subchapter I, Chapter 1602, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 1602.409 to read as follows:

Sec. 1602.409.  IMMUNITY FROM LIABILITY. A person who has completed the portion of continuing education described by Section 1602.354(c)(4), or that person's employer, is immune from civil and criminal liability for reporting, in good faith, information obtained during the course and scope of the person's employment that relates to a potential act of sexual assault or domestic violence.

SECTION 3.  (a) Not later than March 1, 2020, the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation shall adopt rules to implement Section 1602.354, Occupations Code, as amended by this Act.

(b)  Section 1602.354, Occupations Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to the renewal of a license or certificate that expires on or after September 1, 2020. The renewal of a license or certificate that expires before that date is governed by the law in effect immediately before the effective date of this Act, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.