86R7011 JG-D

By:  Davis of Harris H.B. No. 1113

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to state contract limitations and programs for sex trafficking prevention and victim treatment.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 2155.077, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-3) to read as follows:

(a-3)  The comptroller shall bar a vendor from participating in state contracts that are subject to this subtitle, including contracts for which purchasing authority is delegated to a state agency, if the vendor has taken an action that directly supports or promotes human trafficking.

SECTION 2.  Subtitle B, Title 2, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 50 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 50. SEX TRAFFICKING PREVENTION AND VICTIM TREATMENT PROGRAMS

SUBCHAPTER A. TREATMENT PROGRAM FOR VICTIMS OF CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

Sec. 50.0001.  DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1)  "Child sex trafficking" has the meaning assigned by Section 772.0062, Government Code.

(2)  "Program" means the treatment program for victims of child sex trafficking established under this subchapter.

Sec. 50.0002.  ESTABLISHMENT; PURPOSE. The commission, in collaboration with the institution designated under Section 50.0003 and the Child Sex Trafficking Prevention Unit established under Section 772.0062, Government Code, shall establish a program to improve the quality and accessibility of care for victims of child sex trafficking in this state.

Sec. 50.0003.  DESIGNATION OF INSTITUTION; OPERATION OF PROGRAM. (a) The commission shall designate a health-related institution of higher education to operate the program.

(b)  The designated institution shall improve the quality and accessibility of care for victims of child sex trafficking by:

(1)  dedicating a unit at the institution to provide or contract for inpatient care for victims of child sex trafficking;

(2)  dedicating a unit at the institution to provide or contract for outpatient care for victims of child sex trafficking;

(3)  creating opportunities for research and workforce expansion related to treatment of victims of child sex trafficking; and

(4)  assisting other health-related institutions of higher education in this state to establish similar programs.

Sec. 50.0004.  FUNDING. In addition to money appropriated by the legislature, the designated institution may accept gifts, grants, and donations from any public or private person for the purpose of carrying out the program.

Sec. 50.0005.  RULES. The executive commissioner shall adopt rules necessary to implement this subchapter.

SUBCHAPTER B. MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM FOR MUNICIPAL SEX TRAFFICKING PREVENTION PROGRAMS

Sec. 50.0051.  ESTABLISHMENT OF MATCHING GRANT PROGRAM. The commission shall establish and administer a matching grant program that awards grants to provide initial money to establish municipal sex trafficking prevention programs in this state.

Sec. 50.0052.  APPLICATION. (a) A municipality may apply to the commission in the form and manner prescribed by the commission for a matching grant under this subchapter for the municipality's sex trafficking prevention program. To qualify for a grant, an applicant must:

(1)  develop a media campaign and appoint a municipal employee to oversee the program;

(2)  provide proof that the applicant is able to obtain or secure municipal money in an amount at least equal to the amount of the awarded grant; and

(3)  in collaboration with a local institution of higher education, create and submit a needs assessment that outlines:

(A)  the prevalence of sex trafficking crimes in the municipality;

(B)  strategies for reducing the number of sex trafficking crimes in the municipality; and

(C)  the program's need for state funding to supplement the municipal funding.

(b)  The commission shall review applications for a matching grant submitted under this section and award matching grants to each municipality that demonstrates in the application the most effective strategies for reducing the number of sex trafficking crimes in the municipality and the greatest need for state funding.

(c)  The commission may provide a grant under Subsection (b) only in accordance with a contract between the commission and the municipality. The contract must include provisions under which the commission is granted sufficient control to ensure the public purpose of sex trafficking prevention is accomplished and the state receives the return benefit.

Sec. 50.0053.  FUNDING. In addition to money appropriated by the legislature, the commission may solicit and accept gifts, grants, or donations from any source to administer and finance the matching grant program established under this subchapter.

SUBCHAPTER C. SEX TRAFFICKING PREVENTION GRANT PROGRAM FOR LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT

Sec. 50.0101.  ESTABLISHMENT OF GRANT PROGRAM. (a) The office of the governor, in collaboration with the Child Sex Trafficking Prevention Unit established under Section 772.0062, Government Code, shall establish and administer a grant program that awards grants to local law enforcement agencies to train local law enforcement officers to recognize signs of sex trafficking.

(b)  A local law enforcement agency may apply to the office of the governor in the form and manner prescribed by the office for a grant under this section.

(c)  The office of the governor may provide a grant under Subsection (b) only in accordance with a contract between the office and the local law enforcement agency. The contract must include provisions under which the office is granted sufficient control to ensure the public purpose of sex trafficking prevention is accomplished and the state receives the return benefit.

Sec. 50.0102.  FUNDING. In addition to money appropriated by the legislature, the office of the governor may solicit and accept gifts, grants, or donations from any source to administer and finance the grant program established under this subchapter.

SECTION 3.  As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act:

(1)  the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall adopt rules as necessary to implement Subchapters A and B, Chapter 50, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act; and

(2)  the governor shall adopt rules as necessary to implement Subchapter C, Chapter 50, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 4.  Section 2155.077, Government Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to a contract entered into on or after the effective date of this Act.

SECTION 5.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.