

By: Neave, Howard, Minjarez, Button, Lang,  
et al.

H.B. No. 8

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the criminal statute of limitations for certain sexual  
3 offenses and the collection, analysis, and preservation of evidence  
4 of sexual assault and other sex offenses.

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

6 SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the Lavinia Masters  
7 Act.

8 SECTION 2. Article 12.01, Code of Criminal Procedure, is  
9 amended to read as follows:

10 Art. 12.01. FELONIES. Except as provided in Article 12.03,  
11 felony indictments may be presented within these limits, and not  
12 afterward:

13 (1) no limitation:

14 (A) murder and manslaughter;

15 (B) sexual assault under Section 22.011(a)(2),  
16 Penal Code, or aggravated sexual assault under Section  
17 22.021(a)(1)(B), Penal Code;

18 (C) sexual assault, if:

19 (i) during the investigation of the offense  
20 biological matter is collected and the matter:

21 (a) has not yet been subjected to  
22 forensic DNA testing; or

23 (b) has been subjected to forensic DNA  
24 testing and the testing results show that the matter does not match

1 the victim or any other person whose identity is readily  
2 ascertained; or

3 (ii) probable cause exists to believe that  
4 the defendant has committed the same or a similar sexual offense  
5 against five or more victims;

6 (D) continuous sexual abuse of young child or  
7 children under Section 21.02, Penal Code;

8 (E) indecency with a child under Section 21.11,  
9 Penal Code;

10 (F) an offense involving leaving the scene of an  
11 accident under Section 550.021, Transportation Code, if the  
12 accident resulted in the death of a person;

13 (G) trafficking of persons under Section  
14 20A.02(a)(7) or (8), Penal Code;

15 (H) continuous trafficking of persons under  
16 Section 20A.03, Penal Code; or

17 (I) compelling prostitution under Section  
18 43.05(a)(2), Penal Code;

19 (2) ten years from the date of the commission of the  
20 offense:

21 (A) theft of any estate, real, personal or mixed,  
22 by an executor, administrator, guardian or trustee, with intent to  
23 defraud any creditor, heir, legatee, ward, distributee,  
24 beneficiary or settlor of a trust interested in such estate;

25 (B) theft by a public servant of government  
26 property over which he exercises control in his official capacity;

27 (C) forgery or the uttering, using or passing of

1 forged instruments;

2 (D) injury to an elderly or disabled individual  
3 punishable as a felony of the first degree under Section 22.04,  
4 Penal Code;

5 (E) sexual assault, except as provided by  
6 Subdivision (1);

7 (F) arson;

8 (G) trafficking of persons under Section  
9 20A.02(a)(1), (2), (3), or (4), Penal Code; or

10 (H) compelling prostitution under Section  
11 43.05(a)(1), Penal Code;

12 (3) seven years from the date of the commission of the  
13 offense:

14 (A) misapplication of fiduciary property or  
15 property of a financial institution;

16 (B) securing execution of document by deception;

17 (C) a felony violation under Chapter 162, Tax  
18 Code;

19 (D) false statement to obtain property or credit  
20 under Section 32.32, Penal Code;

21 (E) money laundering;

22 (F) credit card or debit card abuse under Section  
23 32.31, Penal Code;

24 (G) fraudulent use or possession of identifying  
25 information under Section 32.51, Penal Code;

26 (H) exploitation of a child, elderly individual,  
27 or disabled individual under Section 32.53, Penal Code;

1 (I) Medicaid fraud under Section 35A.02, Penal  
2 Code; or

3 (J) bigamy under Section 25.01, Penal Code,  
4 except as provided by Subdivision (6);

5 (4) five years from the date of the commission of the  
6 offense:

7 (A) theft or robbery;

8 (B) except as provided by Subdivision (5),  
9 kidnapping or burglary;

10 (C) injury to an elderly or disabled individual  
11 that is not punishable as a felony of the first degree under Section  
12 22.04, Penal Code;

13 (D) abandoning or endangering a child; or

14 (E) insurance fraud;

15 (5) if the investigation of the offense shows that the  
16 victim is younger than 17 years of age at the time the offense is  
17 committed, 20 years from the 18th birthday of the victim of one of  
18 the following offenses:

19 (A) sexual performance by a child under Section  
20 43.25, Penal Code;

21 (B) aggravated kidnapping under Section  
22 20.04(a)(4), Penal Code, if the defendant committed the offense  
23 with the intent to violate or abuse the victim sexually; or

24 (C) burglary under Section 30.02, Penal Code, if  
25 the offense is punishable under Subsection (d) of that section and  
26 the defendant committed the offense with the intent to commit an  
27 offense described by Subdivision (1)(B) or (D) of this article or

1 Paragraph (B) of this subdivision;

2 (6) ten years from the 18th birthday of the victim of  
3 the offense:

4 (A) trafficking of persons under Section  
5 20A.02(a)(5) or (6), Penal Code;

6 (B) injury to a child under Section 22.04, Penal  
7 Code; or

8 (C) bigamy under Section 25.01, Penal Code, if  
9 the investigation of the offense shows that the person, other than  
10 the legal spouse of the defendant, whom the defendant marries or  
11 purports to marry or with whom the defendant lives under the  
12 appearance of being married is younger than 18 years of age at the  
13 time the offense is committed; or

14 (7) three years from the date of the commission of the  
15 offense: all other felonies.

16 SECTION 3. Article 38.43, Code of Criminal Procedure, is  
17 amended by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (c-1) to  
18 read as follows:

19 (c) An entity or individual described by Subsection (b)  
20 shall ensure that biological evidence, other than the contents of a  
21 sexual assault examination kit subject to Subsection (c-1),  
22 collected pursuant to an investigation or prosecution of a felony  
23 offense or conduct constituting a felony offense is retained and  
24 preserved:

25 (1) for not less than 40 years, or until any ~~the~~  
26 applicable statute of limitations has expired, if there is an  
27 unapprehended actor associated with the offense; or

1           (2) in a case in which a defendant has been convicted,  
2 placed on deferred adjudication community supervision, or  
3 adjudicated as having engaged in delinquent conduct and there are  
4 no additional unapprehended actors associated with the offense:

5           (A) until the inmate is executed, dies, or is  
6 released on parole, if the defendant is convicted of a capital  
7 felony;

8           (B) until the defendant dies, completes the  
9 defendant's sentence, or is released on parole or mandatory  
10 supervision, if the defendant is sentenced to a term of confinement  
11 or imprisonment in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice;

12           (C) until the defendant completes the  
13 defendant's term of community supervision, including deferred  
14 adjudication community supervision, if the defendant is placed on  
15 community supervision;

16           (D) until the defendant dies, completes the  
17 defendant's sentence, or is released on parole, mandatory  
18 supervision, or juvenile probation, if the defendant is committed  
19 to the Texas Juvenile Justice Department; or

20           (E) until the defendant completes the  
21 defendant's term of juvenile probation, including a term of  
22 community supervision upon transfer of supervision to a criminal  
23 court, if the defendant is placed on juvenile probation.

24           (c-1) An entity or individual described by Subsection (b)  
25 shall ensure that the contents of a sexual assault examination kit  
26 collected pursuant to an investigation or prosecution of a felony  
27 offense or conduct constituting a felony offense is retained and

1 preserved for not less than 40 years, or until any applicable  
2 statute of limitations has expired, whichever period is longer.  
3 This subsection applies regardless of whether a person has been  
4 apprehended for or charged with committing the offense.

5 SECTION 4. Article 56.065, Code of Criminal Procedure, is  
6 amended by amending Subsection (g) and adding Subsections (g-1),  
7 (g-2), and (g-3) to read as follows:

8 (g) The department, consistent with Chapter 420, Government  
9 Code, shall develop procedures for:

10 (1) the transfer [and preservation] of evidence  
11 collected under this article to a crime laboratory or other  
12 suitable location designated by the public safety director of the  
13 department;

14 (2) the preservation of the evidence by the receiving  
15 entity; and

16 (3) the notification of the victim of the offense  
17 before a planned destruction of evidence under this article.

18 (g-1) Subject to Subsection (g-2), an [The receiving]  
19 entity receiving evidence described by Subsection (g) shall  
20 preserve the evidence until the earlier of:

21 (1) the fifth [second] anniversary of the date on  
22 which [the] evidence was collected; or

23 (2) the date on which written consent to release the  
24 evidence is obtained as provided by Section 420.0735, Government  
25 Code.

26 (g-2) An entity receiving evidence described by Subsection  
27 (g) may destroy the evidence on the expiration of the entity's duty

1 to preserve the evidence under Subsection (g-1)(1) only if:

2 (1) the entity provides written notification to the  
3 victim of the offense, in a trauma-informed manner, of the decision  
4 to destroy the evidence that includes:

5 (A) detailed instructions on how the victim may  
6 make a written objection to the decision, including contact  
7 information for the entity; or

8 (B) a standard form for the victim to complete  
9 and return to the entity to make a written objection to the  
10 decision; and

11 (2) a written objection is not received by the entity  
12 from the victim before the 91st day after the date on which the  
13 entity notifies the victim of the planned destruction of the  
14 evidence.

15 (g-3) The entity shall document the entity's attempt to  
16 notify the victim under Subsection (g-2).

17 SECTION 5. Section 420.003, Government Code, is amended by  
18 amending Subdivisions (1-a), (1-d), and (8) and adding Subdivision  
19 (3) to read as follows:

20 (1-a) "Active criminal case" means a case:

21 (A) in which:

22 (i) a sexual assault or other sex offense  
23 has been reported to a law enforcement agency; and

24 (ii) physical evidence of the offense  
25 [~~assault~~] has been submitted to the agency or an accredited crime  
26 laboratory under this chapter for analysis; and

27 (B) for which:



1 (i) the statute of limitations has not run  
2 with respect to the prosecution of the offense [~~sexual assault~~]; or

3 (ii) a DNA profile was obtained that is  
4 eligible under Section 420.043 for comparison with DNA profiles in  
5 the state database or CODIS DNA database.

6 (1-d) "Law enforcement agency" means a state or local  
7 law enforcement agency in this state with jurisdiction over the  
8 investigation of a sexual assault or other sex offense.

9 (3) "Sex offense" means an offense under Chapter 21,  
10 Penal Code, for which biological evidence is collected in an  
11 evidence collection kit.

12 (8) "Survivor" means an individual who is a victim of a  
13 sexual assault or other sex offense, regardless of whether a report  
14 or conviction is made in the incident.

15 SECTION 6. Section 420.033, Government Code, is amended to  
16 read as follows:

17 Sec. 420.033. CHAIN OF CUSTODY. Medical, law enforcement,  
18 department, and laboratory personnel who handle [~~sexual assault~~]  
19 evidence of a sexual assault or other sex offense under this chapter  
20 or other law shall maintain the chain of custody of the evidence  
21 from the time the evidence is collected until the time the evidence  
22 is destroyed.

23 SECTION 7. Subchapter B, Chapter 420, Government Code, is  
24 amended by adding Section 420.035 to read as follows:

25 Sec. 420.035. EVIDENCE RELEASE. (a) If a health care  
26 facility or other entity that performs a medical examination to  
27 collect evidence of a sexual assault or other sex offense receives

1 signed, written consent to release the evidence as provided by  
2 Section 420.0735, the facility or entity shall promptly notify any  
3 law enforcement agency investigating the alleged offense.

4 (b) Except as provided by Subsection (c), a law enforcement  
5 agency that receives notice from a health care facility or other  
6 entity under Subsection (a) shall take possession of the evidence  
7 not later than the seventh day after the date the law enforcement  
8 agency receives notice.

9 (c) A law enforcement agency that receives notice from a  
10 health care facility or other entity that is located more than 100  
11 miles from the law enforcement agency shall take possession of the  
12 evidence not later than the 14th day after the date the law  
13 enforcement agency receives notice.

14 (d) Failure to comply with evidence collection procedures  
15 or requirements under this section does not affect the  
16 admissibility of the evidence in a trial of the offense.

17 SECTION 8. Subchapter B-1, Chapter 420, Government Code, is  
18 amended to read as follows:

19 SUBCHAPTER B-1. ANALYSIS OF [~~SEXUAL ASSAULT~~] EVIDENCE OF SEXUAL  
20 ASSAULT OR OTHER SEX OFFENSE

21 Sec. 420.041. APPLICABILITY OF SUBCHAPTER. This subchapter  
22 applies only to physical evidence of a sexual assault or other sex  
23 offense that is collected with respect to an active criminal case.

24 Sec. 420.042. ANALYSIS OF [~~SEXUAL ASSAULT~~] EVIDENCE. (a) A  
25 law enforcement agency that receives [~~sexual assault~~] evidence of a  
26 sexual assault or other sex offense that is collected under this  
27 chapter or other law shall submit that evidence to a public

1 accredited crime laboratory for analysis not later than the 30th  
2 day after the date on which that evidence was received.

3 (b) A person who submits [~~sexual assault~~] evidence of a  
4 sexual assault or other sex offense to a public accredited crime  
5 laboratory under this chapter or other law shall provide the  
6 following signed, written certification with each submission:  
7 "This evidence is being submitted by (name of person making  
8 submission) in connection with a criminal investigation."

9 (c) If sufficient personnel and resources are available, a  
10 public accredited crime laboratory, as soon as practicable but not  
11 later than the 90th day after the date on which the laboratory  
12 received the evidence, shall complete its analysis of any [~~sexual~~  
13 ~~assault~~] evidence of a sexual assault or other sex offense that is  
14 submitted under this chapter or other law.

15 (d) To ensure the expeditious completion of analyses, the  
16 department and other applicable public accredited crime  
17 laboratories may contract with private accredited crime  
18 laboratories as appropriate to perform those analyses, subject to  
19 the necessary quality assurance reviews by the public accredited  
20 crime laboratories.

21 (e) The failure of a law enforcement agency to take  
22 possession of evidence of a sexual assault or other sex offense  
23 within the period required by Section 420.035 or to submit that  
24 [~~sexual assault~~] evidence within the period required by this  
25 section does not affect the authority of:

- 26 (1) the agency to take possession of the evidence;  
27 (2) the agency to submit the evidence to an accredited

1 crime laboratory for analysis; ~~[or]~~

2 (3) ~~[(2)]~~ an accredited crime laboratory to analyze  
3 the evidence or provide the results of that analysis to appropriate  
4 persons; or

5 (4) the department or a public accredited crime  
6 laboratory authorized under Section 420.043(b) to compare the DNA  
7 profile obtained from the biological evidence with DNA profiles in  
8 the databases described by Section 420.043(a).

9 (f) Failure to comply with the requirements under this  
10 section does not affect the admissibility of the evidence in a trial  
11 of the offense.

12 Sec. 420.043. DATABASE COMPARISON REQUIRED. (a) Not later  
13 than the 30th day after the date ~~[On the request of any appropriate~~  
14 ~~person and after]~~ an evidence collection kit containing biological  
15 evidence has been analyzed by an accredited crime laboratory and  
16 any necessary quality assurance reviews have been performed, except  
17 as provided by Subsection (b), the department shall compare the DNA  
18 profile obtained from the biological evidence with DNA profiles  
19 maintained in:

20 (1) state databases, including the DNA database  
21 maintained under Subchapter G, Chapter 411, if the amount and  
22 quality of the analyzed sample meet the requirements of the state  
23 database comparison policies; and

24 (2) the CODIS DNA database established by the Federal  
25 Bureau of Investigation, if the amount and quality of the analyzed  
26 sample meet the requirements of the bureau's CODIS comparison  
27 policies.

1        (b) If the evidence kit containing biological evidence is  
2 analyzed by a public accredited crime laboratory, the laboratory,  
3 instead of the department, may perform the comparison of DNA  
4 profiles required under Subsection (a) provided that:

5            (1) the laboratory performs the comparison not later  
6 than the 30th day after the date the analysis is complete and any  
7 necessary quality assurance reviews have been performed;

8            (2) the law enforcement agency that submitted the  
9 evidence collection kit containing biological evidence gives  
10 permission; and

11           (3) the laboratory meets applicable federal and state  
12 requirements to access the databases described by Subsection (a).

13        (c) The department may use appropriated funds to employ  
14 personnel and purchase equipment and technology necessary to comply  
15 with the requirements of this section.

16        Sec. 420.044. GRANT FUNDS. The department shall apply for  
17 any available federal grant funds applicable to the analysis of  
18 evidence collection kits containing biological evidence, including  
19 grant money available under the National Institute of Justice's DNA  
20 Capacity Enhancement and Backlog Reduction Program.

21        Sec. 420.045. REPORT OF UNANALYZED EVIDENCE OF SEXUAL  
22 ASSAULT OR OTHER SEX OFFENSE. Each law enforcement agency and  
23 public accredited crime laboratory shall submit a quarterly report  
24 to the department identifying the number of evidence collection  
25 kits that the law enforcement agency has not yet submitted for  
26 laboratory analysis or for which the crime laboratory has not yet  
27 completed an analysis, as applicable.

1       Sec. 420.046. NONCOMPLIANCE. Failure to comply with the  
2 requirements of this subchapter may be used to determine  
3 eligibility for receiving grant funds from the department, the  
4 office of the governor, or another state agency.

5       Sec. 420.047. AUDIT OF UNANALYZED EVIDENCE OF SEXUAL  
6 ASSAULT OR OTHER SEX OFFENSE. (a) A law enforcement agency in  
7 possession of an evidence collection kit that has not been  
8 submitted for laboratory analysis shall:

9           (1) not later than December 15, 2019, submit to the  
10 department a list of the agency's active criminal cases for which an  
11 evidence collection kit collected on or before September 1, 2019,  
12 has not yet been submitted for laboratory analysis;

13           (2) not later than January 15, 2020, and subject to the  
14 availability of laboratory storage space, submit to the department  
15 or a public accredited crime laboratory, as appropriate, all  
16 evidence collection kits pertaining to those active criminal cases  
17 that have not yet been submitted for laboratory analysis; and

18           (3) if the law enforcement agency submits an evidence  
19 collection kit under Subdivision (2) to a laboratory other than a  
20 department laboratory, notify the department of:

21                   (A) the laboratory to which the evidence  
22 collection kit was sent; and

23                   (B) any analysis completed by the laboratory to  
24 which the evidence collection kit was sent and the date on which the  
25 analysis was completed.

26       (b) Not later than September 1, 2020, the department shall  
27 submit to the governor and the appropriate standing committees of

1 the senate and the house of representatives a report containing:

2 (1) a projected timeline for the completion of  
3 laboratory analyses, in accordance with this chapter, of all  
4 unanalyzed evidence collection kits submitted under Subsection  
5 (a)(2);

6 (2) a request for any necessary funding to accomplish  
7 the analyses under Subdivision (1), including a request for a grant  
8 of money under Article 102.056(e), Code of Criminal Procedure, if  
9 money is available under that subsection;

10 (3) as appropriate, application materials for  
11 requests made as required by Subdivision (2); and

12 (4) if the department determines that outsourcing  
13 certain evidence collection kits is necessary for timely analyses  
14 of the kits:

15 (A) a proposal for determining which evidence  
16 collection kits should be outsourced; and

17 (B) a list of laboratories the department  
18 determines are capable of completing the outsourced analyses.

19 (c) Not later than September 1, 2022, and to the extent that  
20 funding is available, the department shall, as provided by Sections  
21 420.042 and 420.043, analyze or contract for the analysis of, and  
22 complete the required database comparison, or ensure that a public  
23 accredited laboratory completed the comparison, regarding all  
24 evidence collection kits submitted to the department under  
25 Subsection (a)(2).

26 (d) Notwithstanding Subsection (c), the department is not  
27 required to use under this section in a state fiscal year any amount

1 of money from the state highway fund that exceeds the amount the  
2 department has historically used in a state fiscal year to fund  
3 laboratory analyses of evidence collection kits under this chapter.

4 (e) To supplement funding of laboratory analyses under this  
5 section, the department may solicit and receive grants, gifts, or  
6 donations of money from the federal government or private sources  
7 as described by this chapter.

8 (f) This section expires September 1, 2023.

9 SECTION 9. Section 323.005, Health and Safety Code, is  
10 amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (d) to  
11 read as follows:

12 (a) The department shall develop a standard information  
13 form for sexual assault survivors that must include:

14 (1) a detailed explanation of the forensic medical  
15 examination required to be provided by law, including a statement  
16 that photographs may be taken of the genitalia;

17 (2) information regarding treatment of sexually  
18 transmitted infections and pregnancy, including:

19 (A) generally accepted medical procedures;

20 (B) appropriate medications; and

21 (C) any contraindications of the medications  
22 prescribed for treating sexually transmitted infections and  
23 preventing pregnancy;

24 (3) information regarding drug-facilitated sexual  
25 assault, including the necessity for an immediate urine test for  
26 sexual assault survivors who may have been involuntarily drugged;

27 (4) information regarding crime victims compensation,



1 including:

2 (A) a statement that public agencies are  
3 responsible for paying for the forensic portion of an examination  
4 conducted under Article 56.06 or 56.065, Code of Criminal  
5 Procedure, and for the evidence collection kit used in connection  
6 with the examination[+]

7 [~~(i) a law enforcement agency will pay for~~  
8 ~~the forensic portion of an examination requested by the agency~~  
9 ~~under Article 56.06, Code of Criminal Procedure, and for the~~  
10 ~~evidence collection kit; or~~

11 [~~(ii) the Department of Public Safety will~~  
12 ~~pay the appropriate fees for the forensic portion of an examination~~  
13 ~~conducted under Article 56.065, Code of Criminal Procedure, and for~~  
14 ~~the evidence collection kit]; and~~

15 (B) [~~reimbursement~~] information regarding the  
16 reimbursement of the survivor for the medical portion of the  
17 examination;

18 (5) an explanation that consent for the forensic  
19 medical examination may be withdrawn at any time during the  
20 examination;

21 (6) the name and telephone number of sexual assault  
22 crisis centers statewide; and

23 (7) information regarding postexposure prophylaxis  
24 for HIV infection.

25 (d) In addition to providing the information form described  
26 by Subsection (a), a health care facility shall ensure that the  
27 information described by Subsection (a)(4)(A) is orally

1 communicated to the survivor.

2 SECTION 10. Chapter 323, Health and Safety Code, is amended  
3 by adding Section 323.0052 to read as follows:

4 Sec. 323.0052. INFORMATION FORM FOR SEXUAL ASSAULT  
5 SURVIVORS WHO HAVE NOT REPORTED ASSAULT. (a) The department shall  
6 develop a standard information form that, as described by  
7 Subsection (b), is to be provided to sexual assault survivors who  
8 have not given signed, written consent to a health care facility to  
9 release the evidence as provided by Section 420.0735, Government  
10 Code. The form must include the following information:

11 (1) the Department of Public Safety's policy regarding  
12 storage of evidence of a sexual assault or other sex offense that is  
13 collected under Article 56.065, Code of Criminal Procedure,  
14 including:

15 (A) a statement that the evidence will be stored  
16 until the fifth anniversary of the date on which the evidence was  
17 collected before the evidence becomes eligible for destruction; and

18 (B) the department's procedures regarding the  
19 notification of the survivor before a planned destruction of the  
20 evidence;

21 (2) a statement that the survivor may request the  
22 release of the evidence to a law enforcement agency and report a  
23 sexual assault or other sex offense to the agency at any time;

24 (3) the name, phone number, and e-mail address of the  
25 law enforcement agency with jurisdiction over the offense; and

26 (4) the name and phone number of a local rape crisis  
27 center.

1        (b) A health care facility that provides care to a sexual  
2 assault survivor who has not given consent as described by  
3 Subsection (a) shall provide the standard form developed under  
4 Subsection (a) to the survivor before the survivor is released from  
5 the facility.

6        SECTION 11. The change in law made by this Act to Article  
7 12.01, Code of Criminal Procedure, does not apply to an offense if  
8 the prosecution of that offense becomes barred by limitation before  
9 the effective date of this Act. The prosecution of that offense  
10 remains barred as if this Act had not taken effect.

11        SECTION 12. The change in law made by this Act to Article  
12 38.43, Code of Criminal Procedure, applies only to biological  
13 evidence destroyed on or after the effective date of this Act.  
14 Biological evidence destroyed before the effective date of this Act  
15 is governed by the law that was in effect immediately before the  
16 effective date of this Act, and the former law is continued in  
17 effect for that purpose.

18        SECTION 13. (a) Except as provided by this section, the  
19 changes in law made by this Act to Article 56.065, Code of Criminal  
20 Procedure, and Chapter 420, Government Code, apply only to sexual  
21 assault evidence and evidence of other sex offenses collected on or  
22 after the effective date of this Act. Evidence collected before the  
23 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the  
24 date the evidence was collected, and the former law is continued in  
25 effect for that purpose.

26        (b) The change in law made by this Act to Section  
27 420.042(c), Government Code, applies only to sexual assault

1 evidence and evidence of other sex offenses received by a public  
2 accredited crime laboratory on or after January 1, 2021. Evidence  
3 received by a public accredited crime laboratory before January 1,  
4 2021, is governed by the law in effect immediately before the  
5 effective date of this Act, and the former law is continued in  
6 effect for that purpose.

7 (c) Notwithstanding Section 420.046, Government Code, as  
8 added by this Act, a law enforcement agency's or public accredited  
9 crime laboratory's failure to comply with the requirements of  
10 Subchapter B-1, Chapter 420, Government Code, as amended by this  
11 Act, before January 15, 2020, does not affect the agency's or  
12 laboratory's eligibility for grants if the agency or laboratory is  
13 in compliance with Subchapter B-1, Chapter 420, Government Code, as  
14 amended by this Act, beginning on that date.

15 (d) Section 420.047, Government Code, as added by this Act,  
16 applies to an evidence collection kit in possession of a law  
17 enforcement agency on September 1, 2019.

18 SECTION 14. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.