

By: Ramos

H.B. No. 3010

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to a fee exemption for trafficking victims for certain personal identification documents.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 191, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 191.0049 to read as follows:

Sec. 191.0049. BIRTH RECORD ISSUED TO TRAFFICKING VICTIM.

(a) In this section, "trafficking victim" has the meaning assigned by Section 521.4265, Transportation Code.

(b) On request of a person who is a trafficking victim, the state registrar, a local registrar, or a county clerk shall issue without fee a certified copy of the person's birth record.

(c) The state registrar, a local registrar, or a county clerk may require a person to provide only the documentation prescribed by a rule adopted by the Department of Public Safety under Section 521.4265(c), Transportation Code, to confirm a person's status as a trafficking victim.

SECTION 2. Subchapter R, Chapter 521, Transportation Code, is amended by adding Section 521.4265 to read as follows:

Sec. 521.4265. EXEMPTION FOR TRAFFICKING VICTIMS. (a) In this section, "trafficking victim" means a victim of trafficking of persons under Chapter 20A, Penal Code.

(b) A person who is a trafficking victim is exempt from the payment of fees under this chapter for the issuance of a driver's

1 license or personal identification certificate.

2 (c) The department shall adopt rules to implement this  
3 section, including rules prescribing any documentation necessary  
4 to confirm a person's status as a trafficking victim.

5 (d) For each exemption granted under this section, the  
6 department shall deposit to the credit of the Texas mobility fund an  
7 amount from the identification fee exemption account under  
8 Subsection (e) that is equal to the amount of the waived fee that  
9 would otherwise be deposited to the mobility fund.

10 (e) The identification fee exemption account is created as  
11 an account in the general revenue fund of the state treasury. The  
12 fund consists of grants and donations made to the department for the  
13 purposes of this section. The department shall administer the  
14 account. Money in the account may be appropriated for the purposes  
15 of Subsection (d).

16 (f) The department may not grant an exemption under this  
17 section if money is not available in the identification fee  
18 exemption account to meet the requirements of Subsection (d).

19 SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply to an  
20 application for a birth certificate, driver's license, or personal  
21 identification certificate submitted on or after the effective date  
22 of this Act. An application for a birth certificate, driver's  
23 license, or personal identification certificate submitted before  
24 the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on  
25 the date the application was submitted, and the former law is  
26 continued in effect for that purpose.

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