87R3244 EAS-D

By:  Ramos, Beckley, Johnson of Dallas, H.B. No. 674

     Ordaz Perez, et al.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to informing the public about the availability of provisions in protective orders, including provisions regarding pets and other companion animals.

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

SECTION 1.  Chapter 81, Family Code, is amended by adding Section 81.012 to read as follows:

Sec. 81.012.  DEVELOPMENT OF INFORMATION REGARDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS AVAILABLE UNDER PROTECTIVE ORDER. The attorney general and the State Bar of Texas shall jointly develop information to provide to the public about the provisions that may be included in a protective order, including the ability of a court to render a protective order prohibiting a party from removing a pet, companion animal, or assistance animal as defined by Section 121.002, Human Resources Code, from the possession or actual or constructive care of a person named in the order.

SECTION 2.  Subchapter A, Chapter 41, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 41.016 to read as follows:

Sec. 41.016.  INFORMATION REGARDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS AVAILABLE UNDER PROTECTIVE ORDER. The office of a prosecuting attorney shall make information developed under Section 81.012, Family Code, readily available at the prosecuting attorney's office to persons who wish to apply for a protective order.

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.