

By: Shaheen

H.B. No. 813

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to creating the criminal offense of harassment by
3 obstructing access to a hospital.

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

5 SECTION 1. Chapter 22, Penal Code, is amended by adding
6 Section 22.115 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 22.115. HARASSMENT BY OBSTRUCTING ACCESS TO HOSPITAL.

8 (a) A person commits an offense if, with the intent to assault,
9 harass, or alarm, the person knowingly obstructs the entrance or
10 exit of a hospital licensed under Chapter 241, Health and Safety
11 Code, or other health care facility that provides emergency medical
12 care, as defined by Section 773.003, Health and Safety Code.

13 (b) An offense under this section is a felony of the third
14 degree.

15 (c) If conduct constituting an offense under this section
16 also constitutes an offense under another section of this code, the
17 actor may be prosecuted under either section.

18 (d) For purposes of this section, "obstruct" means to render
19 impassable or to render passage unreasonably inconvenient or
20 hazardous.

21 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.