

AN ACT

relating to a change of name for participants in the address confidentiality program administered by the office of the attorney general.

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

SECTION 1. Section 45.102, Family Code, is amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c) A petitioner is not required to provide the street address of the petitioner's place of residence or the petitioner's reason for the requested change of name as otherwise required by Subsection (a) if the petitioner provides a copy of an authorization card certifying in accordance with Article 58.059, Code of Criminal Procedure, that the petitioner is a participant in the address confidentiality program administered by the attorney general under Subchapter B, Chapter 58, Code of Criminal Procedure.

SECTION 2. Section 45.103, Family Code, is amended by adding Subsections (a-1) and (c-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) For purposes of Subsection (a), it is presumed that a change of name is in the interest or to the benefit of the petitioner and in the interest of the public if the petitioner provides a copy of an authorization card certifying in accordance with Article 58.059, Code of Criminal Procedure, that the petitioner is a participant in the address confidentiality program administered by the attorney general under Subchapter B, Chapter

1 58, Code of Criminal Procedure.

2 (c-1) An order issued under this section to change the name
3 of a petitioner described by Subsection (a-1) is confidential and
4 may not be released by the court to any person, regardless of
5 whether the petitioner continues to participate in the address
6 confidentiality program following the change of name under this
7 subchapter.

8 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only
9 to a petition for a change of name that is submitted on or after the
10 effective date of this Act.

11 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2301 was passed by the House on May 6, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 146, Nays 0, 1 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 2301 was passed by the Senate on May 19, 2021, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor