

1-1 By: Reynolds (Senate Sponsor - Miles) H.B. No. 2357
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 12, 2021;
1-3 May 17, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Criminal
1-4 Justice; May 22, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-5 Yeas 7, Nays 0; May 22, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	Whitmire	X		
1-9	Huffman	X		
1-10	Bettencourt	X		
1-11	Birdwell	X		
1-12	Hinojosa	X		
1-13	Miles	X		
1-14	Nichols	X		

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to an exception from required disclosure of information
1-18 related to certain crime victims.

1-19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-20 SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 552, Government Code, is
1-21 amended by adding Section 552.1315 to read as follows:

1-22 Sec. 552.1315. EXCEPTION: CONFIDENTIALITY OF CERTAIN CRIME
1-23 VICTIM RECORDS. (a) Information is confidential and excepted from
1-24 the requirements of Section 552.021 if the information identifies
1-25 an individual as:

1-26 (1) a victim of:

1-27 (A) an offense under Section 20A.02, 20A.03,
1-28 21.02, 21.11, 22.011, 22.021, 43.05, or 43.25, Penal Code; or

1-29 (B) an offense that is part of the same criminal
1-30 episode, as defined by Section 3.01, Penal Code, as an offense
1-31 described by Paragraph (A); or

1-32 (2) a victim of any criminal offense, if the victim was
1-33 younger than 18 years of age when any element of the offense was
1-34 committed.

1-35 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (a), information under this
1-36 section may be disclosed:

1-37 (1) to any victim identified by the information, or to
1-38 the parent or guardian of a victim described by Subsection (a)(2)
1-39 who is identified by the information;

1-40 (2) to a law enforcement agency for investigative
1-41 purposes; or

1-42 (3) in accordance with a court order requiring the
1-43 disclosure.

1-44 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies to a
1-45 request for information that is received by a governmental body or
1-46 an officer for public information on or after the effective date of
1-47 this Act. A request for information that was received before the
1-48 effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the
1-49 date the request was received, and the former law is continued in
1-50 effect for that purpose.

1-51 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-52 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-53 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-54 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-55 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

1-56 * * * * *