

1-1 By: Hunter (Senate Sponsor - Huffman) H.B. No. 3521
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 12, 2021;
1-3 May 12, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Jurisprudence; May 21, 2021, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0; May 21, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7				
1-8	X			
1-9	X			
1-10	X			
1-11	X			
1-12	X			

1-13 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-14 AN ACT

1-15 relating to the definition of coercion for purposes of trafficking
1-16 of persons.

1-17 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-18 SECTION 1. Section 20A.01, Penal Code, is amended by adding
1-19 Subdivision (1-a) to read as follows:

1-20 (1-a) "Coercion" as defined by Section 1.07 includes:

1-21 (A) destroying, concealing, confiscating, or
1-22 withholding from a trafficked person, or threatening to destroy,
1-23 conceal, confiscate, or withhold from a trafficked person, the
1-24 person's actual or purported:

1-25 (i) government records; or

1-26 (ii) identifying information or documents;

1-27 (B) causing a trafficked person, without the
1-28 person's consent, to become intoxicated, as defined by Section
1-29 49.01, to a degree that impairs the person's ability to appraise the
1-30 nature of or resist engaging in any conduct, including performing
1-31 or providing labor or services; or

1-32 (C) withholding alcohol or a controlled
1-33 substance to a degree that impairs the ability of a trafficked
1-34 person with a chemical dependency, as defined by Section 462.001,
1-35 Health and Safety Code, to appraise the nature of or resist engaging
1-36 in any conduct, including performing or providing labor or
1-37 services.

1-38 SECTION 2. Section 20A.02(a-1), Penal Code, is repealed.

1-39 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only
1-40 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.
1-41 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is
1-42 governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed,
1-43 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For
1-44 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the
1-45 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred
1-46 before that date.

1-47 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

1-48 * * * * *