

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 4528

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the punishment for the offense of trafficking of persons.

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

SECTION 1. Section 20A.02(b), Penal Code, is amended to read as follows:

(b) Except as otherwise provided by this subsection, an offense under this section is a felony of the second degree. An offense under this section is a felony of the first degree if:

(1) the applicable conduct constitutes an offense under Subsection (a)(5), (6), (7), or (8), regardless of whether the actor knows the age of the child at the time of the offense;

(2) the commission of the offense results in the death of the person who is trafficked; ~~[or]~~

(3) the commission of the offense results in the death of an unborn child of the person who is trafficked; or

(4) the actor flees from a person the actor knows is a peace officer or federal special investigator attempting lawfully to arrest or detain the actor for conduct constituting an offense under this section.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed,

1 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For
2 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the
3 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred
4 before that date.

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