By:  Thimesch, Thompson of Harris, H.B. No. 3501

     A. Johnson of Harris, Klick, Hull,

     et al.

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to required human trafficking prevention training and disclosure of certain information about human trafficking by tattoo and body piercing studios.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 402.0351(a), Government Code, is amended by amending Subdivision (1) and adding Subdivision (1-a) to read as follows:

(1)  "Body piercing studio" has the meaning assigned by Section 146.001, Health and Safety Code.

(1-a)  "Cosmetology facility" means a person who holds a license to operate a facility or school under Chapter 1602, Occupations Code.

SECTION 2.  Section 402.0351(a-1), Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a-1)  Except as provided by Subsection (a-3), a person who operates any of the following entities shall post at the entity the sign prescribed under Subsection (b), or, if applicable, a similar sign or notice as prescribed by other state law:

(1)  an entity permitted or licensed under Chapter 25, 26, 28, 32, 69, or 71, Alcoholic Beverage Code, other than an entity holding a food and beverage certificate;

(2)  a cosmetology facility;

(3)  a hospital;

(4)  a massage establishment;

(5)  a massage school;

(6)  a sexually oriented business;

(7)  a tattoo studio; [~~or~~]

(8)  a transportation hub; or

(9)  a body piercing studio.

SECTION 3.  Chapter 146, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 146.0075 to read as follows:

Sec. 146.0075.  REQUIRED HUMAN TRAFFICKING TRAINING. (a) Each employee of a tattoo studio or body piercing studio within the time prescribed by rules adopted by the executive commissioner shall complete a training course approved by the executive commissioner on identifying and assisting victims of human trafficking.

(b)  The executive commissioner shall approve training courses on human trafficking prevention, including at least one course that is available without charge. The department shall post the list of the approved training courses on the department's Internet website.

(c)  A tattoo studio or body piercing studio shall post signs relating to human trafficking as required by Section 402.0351, Government Code.

SECTION 4.  As soon as practicable after the effective date of this Act:

(1)  the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission shall:

(A)  approve human trafficking prevention training courses as provided by Section 146.0075(b), Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act; and

(B)  adopt rules necessary to implement Section 146.0075, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act; and

(2)  the Department of State Health Services shall post on its Internet website the list of human trafficking prevention courses approved by the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission under Section 146.0075(b), Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 5.  An employee of a tattoo studio or body piercing studio is not required to complete a training course as required by Section 146.0075(a), Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act, before January 1, 2024.

SECTION 6.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.