88R13011 MPF-D

By:  Thimesch H.B. No. 3501

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.  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 licensed under this chapter shall display in an area of the studio regularly accessible to the studio's employees a poster with information on recognizing potential victims of human trafficking and methods for assisting victims of human trafficking. The department shall develop and post on the department's Internet website the poster described by this subsection.

SECTION 2.  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:

(A)  post on its Internet website the list of human trafficking prevention courses approved by the executive commissioner under Section 146.0075(b), Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act; and

(B)  develop and post on its Internet website the poster described by Section 146.0075(c), Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

SECTION 3.  (a) 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.

(b)  A tattoo studio or body piercing studio is not required to comply with Section 146.0075(c), Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act, before January 1, 2024.

SECTION 4.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.