A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to crime victims' compensation for certain relocation and housing rental expenses.

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

SECTION 1. Article 56B.106(c), Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

(c) A victim of stalking, family violence, [or] trafficking of persons, or [a victim of] sexual assault [who is assaulted in the victim's place of residence,] or a child who is a victim of a murder attempt [in the child's place of residence] may receive a one-time assistance payment in an amount not to exceed:

(1) $2,000 to be used for relocation expenses, including expenses for rental deposit, utility connections, expenses relating to moving belongings, motor vehicle mileage expenses, and for an out-of-state move, transportation, lodging, and meals; and

(2) $1,800 to be used for housing rental expenses.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to compensation for criminally injurious conduct occurring on or after the effective date of this Act. Compensation for criminally injurious conduct occurring before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the conduct occurred, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, criminally injurious conduct occurred
before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense underlying the conduct occurred before that date.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.