

By: Ramos, Plesa, et al.

H.B. No. 1179

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to informing the public about the availability of
3 provisions in protective orders, including provisions regarding
4 pets and other companion animals.

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

6 SECTION 1. Chapter 81, Family Code, is amended by adding
7 Section 81.012 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 81.012. DEVELOPMENT OF INFORMATION REGARDING CERTAIN
9 PROVISIONS AVAILABLE UNDER PROTECTIVE ORDER. The attorney general
10 and the State Bar of Texas shall jointly develop information to
11 provide to the public about the provisions that may be included in a
12 protective order, including the ability of a court to render a
13 protective order prohibiting a party from removing a pet, companion
14 animal, or assistance animal as defined by Section 121.002, Human
15 Resources Code, from the possession or actual or constructive care
16 of a person named in the order.

17 SECTION 2. Subchapter A, Chapter 41, Government Code, is
18 amended by adding Section 41.016 to read as follows:

19 Sec. 41.016. INFORMATION REGARDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS
20 AVAILABLE UNDER PROTECTIVE ORDER. The office of a prosecuting
21 attorney shall make information developed under Section 81.012,
22 Family Code, readily available at the prosecuting attorney's office
23 to persons who wish to apply for a protective order.

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