

By: West

S.B. No. 529

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to extreme risk protective orders; creating criminal offenses.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 7B, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended by adding Subchapter D to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER D. EXTREME RISK PROTECTIVE ORDER

Art. 7B.151. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Bodily injury" and "serious bodily injury" have the meanings assigned by Section 1.07, Penal Code.

(2) "Family," "family violence," and "household" have the meanings assigned by Chapter 71, Family Code.

(3) "Firearm" has the meaning assigned by Section 46.01, Penal Code.

(4) "Local mental health authority" has the meaning assigned by Section 571.003, Health and Safety Code.

(5) "Serious mental illness" has the meaning assigned by Section 1355.001, Insurance Code.

Art. 7B.152. APPLICATION FOR EXTREME RISK PROTECTIVE ORDER.

(a) An application for a protective order under this subchapter may be filed by:

(1) a member of the respondent's family or household;

(2) a parent, guardian, or conservator of a person who

is:

1                   (A) under 18 years of age; and

2                   (B) a member of the respondent's family or  
3 household; or

4                   (3) a peace officer.

5           (b) An application must:

6                   (1) include:

7                   (A) detailed allegations, based on personal  
8 knowledge of a person described by Subsection (a), regarding any  
9 dangerous behavior or conduct exhibited by the respondent as a  
10 result of a serious mental illness, including any behavior or  
11 conduct related to the respondent's use of firearms;

12                   (B) any relevant medical or mental health  
13 information concerning the respondent, including copies of  
14 relevant medical or mental health records, if available;

15                   (C) information concerning the quantity, type,  
16 and location of any firearms the applicant believes to be in the  
17 respondent's possession or control, if any;

18                   (D) any other relevant facts indicating a need  
19 for a protective order under this subchapter; and

20                   (E) a statement that the applicant believes the  
21 respondent poses an immediate and present danger of causing bodily  
22 injury, serious bodily injury, or death to any person, including  
23 the respondent, as a result of the respondent's serious mental  
24 illness and access to firearms; and

25                   (2) be signed by the applicant under an oath that, to  
26 the knowledge and belief of the applicant, the facts and  
27 circumstances contained in the application are true.

1       (c) An application for a protective order under this  
2 subchapter may be filed in a district court, juvenile court having  
3 the jurisdiction of a district court, statutory county court, or  
4 constitutional county court in the county in which the applicant or  
5 the respondent resides.

6       Art. 7B.153. CONFIDENTIALITY OF CERTAIN INFORMATION. On  
7 receiving an application containing specific medical or mental  
8 health information concerning the respondent, the court shall order  
9 the clerk to:

10           (1) strike the information from the public records of  
11 the court; and

12           (2) maintain a confidential record of the information  
13 for use only by the court.

14       Art. 7B.154. TEMPORARY EX PARTE ORDER. (a) If the court  
15 finds from the information contained in an application for a  
16 protective order under this subchapter that there is reasonable  
17 cause to believe that the respondent poses an immediate and present  
18 danger of causing bodily injury, serious bodily injury, or death to  
19 any person, including the respondent, as a result of the  
20 respondent's serious mental illness and access to firearms, the  
21 court, without further notice to the respondent and without a  
22 hearing, may issue a temporary ex parte order prohibiting the  
23 respondent from purchasing, owning, possessing, or controlling a  
24 firearm.

25       (b) In a temporary ex parte order, the court may order the  
26 respondent to:

27           (1) not later than 24 hours after the time the order is

1 issued, relinquish any firearms owned by or in the actual or  
2 constructive possession or control of the respondent to a law  
3 enforcement agency for holding in the manner provided by Article  
4 18.192;

5 (2) if applicable, surrender to the court the  
6 respondent's license to carry a handgun issued under Subchapter H,  
7 Chapter 411, Government Code; and

8 (3) for purposes of determining whether the respondent  
9 has a serious mental illness, submit to an examination by the local  
10 mental health authority or a disinterested expert who is qualified  
11 to diagnose, and experienced in diagnosing, mental illness.

12 Art. 7B.155. HEARING; ISSUANCE OF PROTECTIVE ORDER. (a)  
13 Not later than the 14th day after the later of the date an  
14 application is filed or the date a temporary ex parte order is  
15 issued, the court shall hold a hearing on the issuance of the  
16 protective order.

17 (b) The court shall provide personal notice of the hearing  
18 to the respondent.

19 (c) In determining whether to issue a protective order under  
20 this article, the court:

21 (1) shall consider:

22 (A) the results of an examination described by  
23 Article 7B.154(b)(3);

24 (B) any relevant medical or mental health  
25 information concerning the respondent;

26 (C) any history of threats or acts of violence by  
27 the respondent directed at any person, including the respondent;

1           (D) any history of the respondent using,  
2 attempting to use, or threatening to use physical force against  
3 another person;

4           (E) any recent violation by the respondent of an  
5 order issued:

6                   (i) under another provision of this chapter  
7 or under Article 17.292;

8                   (ii) under Section 6.504 or Chapter 85,  
9 Family Code;

10                   (iii) under Chapter 83, Family Code, if the  
11 temporary ex parte order has been served on the respondent; or

12                   (iv) by another jurisdiction as provided by  
13 Chapter 88, Family Code;

14           (F) any arrest or conviction of the respondent  
15 for:

16                   (i) an offense under Section 42.072, Penal  
17 Code; or

18                   (ii) an offense involving violence,  
19 including family violence;

20           (G) any conviction of the respondent for an  
21 offense under Section 42.09, 42.091, or 42.092, Penal Code; and

22           (H) evidence related to the respondent's current  
23 or recent abuse of a controlled substance or alcohol, not including  
24 any evidence of previous treatment for or recovery from abusing a  
25 controlled substance or alcohol; and

26           (2) may consider any other relevant factor including:

27                   (A) any previous violation by the respondent of

1 an order described by Subdivision (1)(E); and

2 (B) evidence regarding the respondent's recent  
3 acquisition of firearms, ammunition, or other deadly weapons.

4 (d) At the close of the hearing, if the court finds by clear  
5 and convincing evidence that the respondent poses an immediate and  
6 present danger of causing bodily injury, serious bodily injury, or  
7 death to any person, including the respondent, as a result of the  
8 respondent's serious mental illness and access to firearms, the  
9 court shall issue a protective order that includes a statement of  
10 the required finding.

11 (e) If the court does not make the finding described by  
12 Subsection (d), the court shall, as applicable, rescind any  
13 temporary ex parte order issued under Article 7B.154 and return the  
14 respondent's license to carry a handgun.

15 Art. 7B.156. CONTENTS OF PROTECTIVE ORDER. In a protective  
16 order issued under Article 7B.155, the court shall:

17 (1) prohibit the person who is subject to the order  
18 from purchasing, owning, possessing, or controlling a firearm for  
19 the duration of the order;

20 (2) order the person to:

21 (A) not later than 24 hours after the time the  
22 order is issued, relinquish any firearms owned by or in the actual  
23 or constructive possession or control of the person to a law  
24 enforcement agency for holding in the manner provided by Article  
25 18.192;

26 (B) if applicable, surrender to the court the  
27 person's license to carry a handgun issued under Subchapter H,

1 Chapter 411, Government Code; and

2 (C) if applicable, receive outpatient mental  
3 health services if recommended by the local mental health authority  
4 or expert after the authority or expert performs an examination  
5 described by Article 7B.154(b)(3); and

6 (3) suspend a license to carry a handgun issued under  
7 Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code, that is held by the  
8 person.

9 Art. 7B.157. DURATION OF PROTECTIVE ORDER. (a) A  
10 protective order issued under Article 7B.155 is effective until the  
11 first anniversary of the date the order was issued.

12 (b) The court may renew a protective order issued under  
13 Article 7B.155 for a period not to exceed one year after the order's  
14 original expiration date. Before renewing the order the court must  
15 hold a hearing after providing personal notice of the hearing to the  
16 person who is the subject of the order.

17 (c) A person who is the subject of a protective order may  
18 file a motion not earlier than the 91st day after the date on which  
19 the order was initially issued or renewed, as applicable,  
20 requesting that the court review the order and determine whether  
21 there is a continuing need for the order. After a hearing on the  
22 motion, if the court fails to make the finding that there is no  
23 continuing need for the order, the order remains in effect until the  
24 date the order expires as provided by this article.

25 (d) At a hearing to renew or rescind a protective order  
26 under this article, the court shall consider the factors described  
27 by Article 7B.155(c).

Art. 7B.158. NOTICE TO DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY. (a)

Not later than 24 hours after the time a protective order is issued under Article 7B.155, the clerk of the issuing court shall provide the following to the Department of Public Safety:

(1) the complete name, race, and sex of the person who is the subject of the order;

(2) any known identifying number of the person, including a social security number, driver's license number, or state identification number;

(3) the person's date of birth;

(4) if surrendered to the court, the person's license to carry a handgun issued under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code; and

(5) a copy of the order suspending the person's license to carry a handgun under Subchapter H, Chapter 411, Government Code.

(b) On receipt of an order suspending a license to carry a handgun, the department shall:

(1) record the suspension of the license in the records of the department;

(2) report the suspension to local law enforcement agencies, as appropriate; and

(3) if the license was not surrendered to the court, demand surrender of the suspended license from the license holder.

(c) Not later than the 30th day after the date the protective order is rescinded or expires under Article 7B.157, the clerk of the issuing court shall notify the Department of Public



1 Safety of the rescission or expiration, as applicable.

2 Art. 7B.159. APPLICATION OF OTHER LAW. To the extent  
3 applicable, except as otherwise provided by this subchapter, Title  
4 4, Family Code, applies to a protective order issued under this  
5 subchapter.

6 SECTION 2. Chapter 18, Code of Criminal Procedure, is  
7 amended by adding Article 18.192 to read as follows:

8 Art. 18.192. HOLDING AND DISPOSITION OF FIREARM  
9 RELINQUISHED UNDER EXTREME RISK PROTECTIVE ORDER. (a) A law  
10 enforcement officer who takes possession of a firearm from a person  
11 who is the subject of an extreme risk protective order issued under  
12 Subchapter D, Chapter 7B, shall immediately provide the person a  
13 written copy of the receipt for the firearm and a written notice of  
14 the procedure for the return of a firearm under this article.

15 (b) Not later than the seventh day after the date a firearm  
16 subject to disposition under this article is received, the law  
17 enforcement agency holding the firearm shall notify the court that  
18 issued the extreme risk protective order that the person who is the  
19 subject of the order has relinquished the firearm.

20 (c) Not later than the 30th day after the date the extreme  
21 risk protective order is rescinded or expires, the clerk of the  
22 court shall notify the law enforcement agency of the rescission or  
23 expiration.

24 (d) Not later than the 30th day after the date the law  
25 enforcement agency holding a firearm subject to disposition under  
26 this article receives the notice described by Subsection (c), the  
27 law enforcement agency shall conduct a check of state and national

1 criminal history record information to verify whether the person  
2 may lawfully possess a firearm under 18 U.S.C. Section 922(g) and  
3 under the law of this state.

4 (e) If the check conducted under Subsection (d) verifies  
5 that the person may lawfully possess a firearm, the law enforcement  
6 agency shall provide to the person by certified mail written notice  
7 stating that the firearm may be returned to the person if the person  
8 submits a written request before the 121st day after the date of the  
9 notice.

10 (f) An unclaimed firearm that is received under an extreme  
11 risk protective order issued under Subchapter D, Chapter 7B, may  
12 not be destroyed or forfeited to the state.

13 (g) The law enforcement agency holding the firearm may  
14 provide for the firearm to be sold by a firearms dealer licensed  
15 under 18 U.S.C. Section 923 if:

16 (1) the check conducted under Subsection (d) shows  
17 that the person may not lawfully possess a firearm; or

18 (2) the notice is provided under Subsection (e) and  
19 the person does not submit, before the 121st day after the date of  
20 the notice, a written request for the return of the firearm.

21 (h) The proceeds from the sale of a firearm under this  
22 article shall be paid to the owner of the seized firearm, less the  
23 cost of administering this article with respect to the firearm.

24 SECTION 3. Subchapter D, Chapter 411, Government Code, is  
25 amended by adding Section 411.0522 to read as follows:

26 Sec. 411.0522. INFORMATION CONCERNING EXTREME RISK  
27 PROTECTIVE ORDER. (a) The department by rule shall establish a

1 procedure to provide information concerning a person who is the  
2 subject of an extreme risk protective order issued under Subchapter  
3 D, Chapter 7B, Code of Criminal Procedure, to the Federal Bureau of  
4 Investigation for inclusion in the National Instant Criminal  
5 Background Check System.

6 (b) The procedure must require the department to provide any  
7 information received under Article 7B.158, Code of Criminal  
8 Procedure, to the Federal Bureau of Investigation not later than 24  
9 hours after the time the department received the information.

10 SECTION 4. Section 411.172(a), Government Code, is amended  
11 to read as follows:

12 (a) A person is eligible for a license to carry a handgun if  
13 the person:

14 (1) is a legal resident of this state for the six-month  
15 period preceding the date of application under this subchapter or  
16 is otherwise eligible for a license under Section 411.173(a);

17 (2) is at least 21 years of age;

18 (3) has not been convicted of a felony;

19 (4) is not charged with the commission of a Class A or  
20 Class B misdemeanor or equivalent offense, or of an offense under  
21 Section 42.01, Penal Code, or equivalent offense, or of a felony  
22 under an information or indictment;

23 (5) is not a fugitive from justice for a felony or a  
24 Class A or Class B misdemeanor or equivalent offense;

25 (6) is not a chemically dependent person;

26 (7) is not incapable of exercising sound judgment with  
27 respect to the proper use and storage of a handgun;

1           (8) has not, in the five years preceding the date of  
2 application, been convicted of a Class A or Class B misdemeanor or  
3 equivalent offense or of an offense under Section 42.01, Penal  
4 Code, or equivalent offense;

5           (9) is fully qualified under applicable federal and  
6 state law to purchase a handgun;

7           (10) has not been finally determined to be delinquent  
8 in making a child support payment administered or collected by the  
9 attorney general;

10           (11) has not been finally determined to be delinquent  
11 in the payment of a tax or other money collected by the comptroller,  
12 the tax collector of a political subdivision of the state, or any  
13 agency or subdivision of the state;

14           (12) is not currently:

15                   (A) restricted under a court protective order,  
16 including an extreme risk protective order issued under Subchapter  
17 D, Chapter 7B, Code of Criminal Procedure; or

18                   (B) subject to a restraining order affecting the  
19 spousal relationship, other than a restraining order solely  
20 affecting property interests;

21           (13) has not, in the 10 years preceding the date of  
22 application, been adjudicated as having engaged in delinquent  
23 conduct violating a penal law of the grade of felony; and

24           (14) has not made any material misrepresentation, or  
25 failed to disclose any material fact, in an application submitted  
26 pursuant to Section 411.174.

27           SECTION 5. Sections 411.187(a) and (c), Government Code,

1 are amended to read as follows:

2 (a) The department shall suspend a license under this  
3 section if the license holder:

4 (1) is charged with the commission of a Class A or  
5 Class B misdemeanor or equivalent offense, or of an offense under  
6 Section 42.01, Penal Code, or equivalent offense, or of a felony  
7 under an information or indictment;

8 (2) fails to notify the department of a change of  
9 address, name, or status as required by Section 411.181;

10 (3) commits an act of family violence and is the  
11 subject of an active protective order rendered under Title 4,  
12 Family Code; ~~or~~

13 (4) is arrested for an offense involving family  
14 violence or an offense under Section 42.072, Penal Code, and is the  
15 subject of an order for emergency protection issued under Article  
16 17.292, Code of Criminal Procedure; or

17 (5) is the subject of an active protective order  
18 issued under Subchapter D, Chapter 7B, Code of Criminal Procedure.

19 (c) The department shall suspend a license under this  
20 section:

21 (1) for 30 days, if the person's license is subject to  
22 suspension for a reason listed in Subsection (a)(2) [~~or (3), or (4),~~  
23 ~~except as provided by Subdivision (2)];~~

24 (2) [~~for not less than one year and not more than three~~  
25 ~~years, if the person's license:~~

26 [~~(A) is subject to suspension for a reason listed~~  
27 ~~in Subsection (a), other than the reason listed in Subsection~~

1 ~~(a)(1), and~~

2 ~~[(B) has been previously suspended for the same~~  
3 ~~reason,~~

4 ~~(3)]~~ until dismissal of the charges, if the person's  
5 license is subject to suspension for the reason listed in  
6 Subsection (a)(1); or

7 (3) ~~[(4)]~~ for the duration of or the period specified  
8 by:

9 (A) the protective order issued under Title 4,  
10 Family Code, if the person's license is subject to suspension for  
11 the reason listed in Subsection (a)(3) ~~[(a)(5)]~~; ~~or]~~

12 (B) the order for emergency protection issued  
13 under Article [17.292](#), Code of Criminal Procedure, if the person's  
14 license is subject to suspension for the reason listed in  
15 Subsection (a)(4); or

16 (C) the extreme risk protective order issued  
17 under Subchapter D, Chapter [7B](#), Code of Criminal Procedure, if the  
18 person's license is subject to suspension for the reason listed in  
19 Subsection (a)(5) ~~[(a)(6)]~~.

20 SECTION 6. Chapter [37](#), Penal Code, is amended by adding  
21 Section 37.083 to read as follows:

22 Sec. 37.083. FALSE REPORT REGARDING REQUEST FOR EXTREME  
23 RISK PROTECTIVE ORDER. (a) A person commits an offense if, with  
24 intent to deceive, the person makes a statement that the person  
25 knows to be false to a peace officer relating to a request that the  
26 officer file an application for an extreme risk protective order  
27 under Subchapter D, Chapter [7B](#), Code of Criminal Procedure.

1       (b) An offense under this section is a Class B misdemeanor.

2       (c) If conduct that constitutes an offense under this  
3 section also constitutes an offense under another law, the actor  
4 may be prosecuted under this section, the other law, or both.

5       SECTION 7. Section 46.04, Penal Code, is amended by adding  
6 Subsection (c-1) and amending Subsection (e) to read as follows:

7       (c-1) A person commits an offense if, after receiving notice  
8 that the person is subject to an extreme risk protective order  
9 issued under Subchapter D, Chapter 7B, Code of Criminal Procedure,  
10 and before rescission or expiration of the order, the person  
11 purchases, owns, possesses, or controls a firearm in violation of  
12 the order.

13       (e) An offense under Subsection (a) is a felony of the third  
14 degree. An offense under Subsection (a-1), (b), ~~(c)~~, or (c-1)  
15 is a Class A misdemeanor.

16       SECTION 8. Not later than October 1, 2023, the Department of  
17 Public Safety shall adopt rules as required by Section 411.0522,  
18 Government Code, as added by this Act.

19       SECTION 9. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.