

By: Zaffirini, Bettencourt, West

S.B. No. 578

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the confidentiality of certain personal information of an applicant for or a person protected by a protective order.

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

SECTION 1. Section 82.011, Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 82.011. CONFIDENTIALITY OF CERTAIN INFORMATION. On request by an applicant, the court may protect the applicant's mailing address and county of residence by rendering an order:

(1) requiring the applicant to:

(A) disclose the applicant's mailing address and county of residence to the court;

(B) designate a person to receive on behalf of the applicant any notice or documents filed with the court related to the application; and

(C) disclose the designated person's mailing address to the court;

(2) requiring the court clerk to:

(A) strike the applicant's mailing address and county of residence from the public records of the court, if applicable; and

(B) maintain a confidential record of the applicant's mailing address and county of residence for use only by the court; and

(3) prohibiting the release of the information to the respondent.

SECTION 2. Section 85.007(a), Family Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) On request by a person protected by an order or member of the family or household of a person protected by an order, the court may exclude from a protective order:

(1) the address, county of residence, and telephone number of

~~[(1)] a person protected by the order[, in which case the order shall state the county in which the person resides]; or~~

(2) the address and telephone number of:

(A) the place of employment or business of a person protected by the order; or

(B) ~~[(3)]~~ the child-care facility or school a child protected by the order attends or in which the child resides.

SECTION 3. (a) Section 82.011, Family Code, as amended by this Act, applies only to an application for a protective order that is filed on or after the effective date of this Act. An application for a protective order filed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the application is filed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

(b) Section 85.007, Family Code, as amended by this Act, applies to a protective order regardless of whether the protective order was rendered before, on, or after the effective date of this Act.

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