

BILL ANALYSIS

H.B. 837
By: Howard
Licensing & Administrative Procedures
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

According to the most recent "Honoring Texas Victims" reports by the Texas Council on Family Violence, 205 Texans were killed by their intimate partners in 2023, and the number of Texan women who were killed by intimate partner violence has nearly doubled over the last decade. The bill author has informed the committee that other states have implemented requirements for a cosmetology license applicant to complete a domestic violence awareness course but that Texas' licensure requirements do not include this type of training. H.B. 837 seeks to implement training as a mitigation strategy for domestic violence by providing for training on domestic violence to be included in the required instruction for barbering and cosmetology students.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that rulemaking authority is expressly granted to the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation in SECTION 2 of this bill.

ANALYSIS

H.B. 837 amends the Occupations Code to require the Texas Commission of Licensing and Regulation (TCLR) rules that establish the subjects in which barbering and cosmetology students receive instruction to require instruction on identifying and assisting victims of domestic violence. The bill requires TCLR, in addition to any continuing education requirements it establishes for the renewal of a barber or cosmetology license, to adopt rules requiring a license holder to complete continuing education on identifying and assisting victims of domestic violence.

H.B. 837 requires TCLR to adopt rules to implement the bill's provisions as soon as practicable after the bill's effective date.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2025.