

By: Thompson

H.B. No. 589

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to combating human trafficking by the Texas Department of  
Licensing and Regulation.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 51, Occupations Code, is amended by  
adding Subchapter K to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER K. COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING

Sec. 51.551. ANTI-TRAFFICKING ACTIVITIES. The department  
may combat human trafficking by:

(1) establishing within the department an  
anti-trafficking unit;

(2) identifying businesses operating within  
industries regulated by the department that are impacted by human  
trafficking; and

(3) coordinating with:

(A) the office of the attorney general, including  
any council, task force, or work group established by that office to  
combat human trafficking;

(B) local, state, and federal law enforcement  
agencies; and

(C) any nongovernmental entity engaged in  
efforts to combat human trafficking or assist victims.

Sec. 51.552. RULES. The commission may adopt rules to  
combat human trafficking for any program regulated by the

1 department, including rules for conducting inspections and  
2 investigations under Section 51.351.

3 Sec. 51.553. CONFIDENTIALITY OF RECORDS IDENTIFYING  
4 VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING. (a) Information that identifies an  
5 individual as a victim of human trafficking is confidential and  
6 excepted from disclosure under Section 552.021, Government Code.

7 (b) The department may withhold the information without the  
8 necessity of requesting a decision from the attorney general under  
9 Subchapter G, Chapter 552, Government Code.

10 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.