

By: Thompson

H.B. No. 793

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 shall ~~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

1 the court; and

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

4 SECTION 2. Section 85.007, Family Code, is amended by
5 amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (a-1) to read as
6 follows:

7 (a) On request by a person protected by an order or an adult
8 member of the family or household of a person protected by an order,
9 the court shall ~~[may]~~ exclude from a protective order:

10 (1) the address, county of residence, and telephone
11 number of a person protected by the order; or

12 (2) the address and telephone number of:

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

15 (B) the child-care facility or school a child
16 protected by the order attends or in which the child resides.

17 (a-1) In a hearing on an application for a protective order,
18 the court shall inform each person described by Subsection (a) who
19 is present at the hearing of the person's right, on request, to have
20 information described by that subsection excluded from the
21 protective order and specifically ask the person if the person
22 wishes the court to exclude that information from the protective
23 order.

24 SECTION 3. Section 87.004, Family Code, is amended by
25 adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

26 (a-1) On request by a person protected by an order, the
27 court shall keep confidential the changed address or telephone

1 number in the notification described by Subsection (a). On
2 granting a request for confidentiality under this subsection, the
3 court shall order the clerk to maintain a confidential record of the
4 information as described by Section 85.007(b)(2) and exclude that
5 information from the notification. If the applicant seeks to keep
6 confidential the applicant's mailing address, the applicant must:

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

9 (2) designate a person to receive on behalf of the
10 applicant any notice or documents filed with the court related to
11 the order; and

12 (3) disclose the designated person's mailing address
13 to the court.

14 SECTION 4. The change in law made by this Act applies to an
15 application for a protective order that is pending on or filed on or
16 after the effective date of this Act or a notification of change of
17 address or telephone number that is filed on or after the effective
18 date of this Act.

19 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.