

By: Manuel

H. B. No. 4155

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

# 1 AN ACT

2 relating to the creation of a family violence criminal homicide  
3 prevention task force.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 772, Government Code, is  
6 amended by adding Section 772.0065 to read as follows:

7                   Sec. 772.0065. FAMILY VIOLENCE CRIMINAL HOMICIDE

8 PREVENTION TASK FORCE. (a) In this section:

18                   (b) The governor shall establish the Family Violence  
19 Criminal Homicide Prevention Task Force within the criminal justice  
20 division established under Section 772.006.

21                   (c) The task force shall include a steering committee  
22 composed of the following members:

23 (1) the governor or the governor's designee; and

24 (2) the chief executive officer of a statewide family

1 violence advocacy organization or the chief executive officer's  
2 designee.

3 (d) The task force is composed of the following members  
4 appointed by the steering committee:

5 (1) four representatives who are employees or  
6 contractors of a family violence center, as defined by Section  
7 51.002, Human Resources Code, from different regions across the  
8 state, representing both rural and urban areas;

9 (2) two representatives of a statewide family violence  
10 advocacy organization;

11 (3) one representative from an organization that  
12 operates statewide and provides legal services to victims of family  
13 violence;

14 (4) one representative from each state agency that has  
15 duties relating to the prevention, investigation, or prosecution of  
16 family violence or that provides services to survivors of family  
17 violence, including:

18 (A) the office of the attorney general;  
19 (B) the Health and Human Services Commission;  
20 (C) the Office of Court Administration;  
21 (D) the Department of State Health Services; and  
22 (E) the Department of Family and Protective  
23 Services;

24 (5) one representative from the family violence  
25 program operated by the Health and Human Services Commission;

26 (6) one representative from the Center for Violence  
27 Prevention at The University of Texas Health Science Center at

1     Houston;

2                 (7)    the president of the Texas District and County

3    Attorneys Association or the president's designee;

4                 (8)    the executive director of the Texas Municipal

5    Police Association or the executive director's designee;

6                 (9)    the executive director of the Texas Commission on

7    Law Enforcement or the executive director's designee;

8                 (10)   one representative of the Texas Violent Death

9    Reporting System;

10                (11)   one representative from a domestic violence high

11   risk team described by Section 402.039;

12                (12)    two survivors of family violence; and

13                (13)    additional members as considered appropriate by

14   the steering committee.

15                (e)    An appointed member serves at the pleasure of the

16   steering committee.

17                (f)    The governor shall designate one member of the task

18   force to serve as the presiding officer.

19                (g)    The task force shall meet at the call of the presiding

20   officer.

21                (h)    The task force shall use any available federal or state

22   funding for the purposes of this section.

23                (i)    The steering committee may establish one or more working

24   groups, composed of members of the task force, to focus on specific

25   issues regarding the prevention, investigation, and prosecution of

26   family violence criminal homicide.

27                (j)    The task force shall:

1                   (1) analyze the top risk factors that may lead to  
2 family violence criminal homicide;

3                   (2) advise and provide resources to state agencies and  
4 nonprofit organizations to develop and improve training for  
5 professionals who interact with survivors of family violence;

6                   (3) collect, analyze, and make publicly available  
7 information, organized by region, regarding:

8                    (A) the prevention, investigation, and  
9 prosecution of family violence criminal homicide and other family  
10 violence offenses; and

11                   (B) services provided to family violence  
12 survivors, including a list of family violence advocacy  
13 organizations; and

14                   (4) develop policy recommendations to assist the state  
15 in:

16                    (A) effectively coordinating services to family  
17 violence survivors and funding to organizations that provide  
18 services to survivors; and

19                    (B) more effectively preventing, investigating,  
20 and prosecuting incidents of family violence criminal homicide.

21                   (k) Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the  
22 task force.

23                   (1) A task force member who is not employed by a state agency  
24 or an individual invited by the presiding officer to participate in  
25 a scheduled task force meeting is entitled to:

26                    (1) a per diem in the amount provided by the General  
27 Appropriations Act for each day the member performs duties as a task

1     force member or the individual attends a task force meeting; and  
2                 (2) reimbursement for actual and necessary expenses  
3     incurred in performing duties as a member or participant of the task  
4     force, as applicable.

5                 (m) Not later than December 1, 2026, the task force shall  
6     submit to the governor, the lieutenant governor, and the speaker of  
7     the house of representatives a written report containing the task  
8     force's findings and recommendations for legislative or other  
9     action.

10                 (n) The task force is abolished and this section expires  
11     January 1, 2028.

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