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H.B. No. 5509

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the suspension or revocation of a hotel's certificate
of occupancy by a municipality for suspected human trafficking.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 215, Local Government
Code, is amended by adding Section 215.007 to read as follows:

Sec. 215.007. SUSPENSION OR REVOCATION OF HOTEL CERTIFICATE
OF OCCUPANCY. (a) In this section:

(1) "Hotel" has the meaning assigned by Section
156.001, Tax Code.

(2) "Human trafficking activity" means conduct that
constitutes an offense under Section 20A.02 or 20A.03, Penal Code.

(b) The governing body of a municipality may suspend or
revoke a certificate of occupancy for a hotel located in the
municipality if:

(1) a law enforcement officer provides an affidavit of
probable cause swearing that criminal human trafficking activity is
occurring in the hotel; and

(2) a court with criminal jurisdiction in the county
in which the hotel is located issues an order stating the court's
finding of probable cause that human trafficking activity is
occurring at the hotel.

(c) This section does not limit a hotel owner's or
operator's right to a public hearing and to present evidence at a

1 proceeding regarding the suspension or revocation of a certificate
2 of occupancy.

3 (d) A municipality that seeks to suspend or revoke a
4 certificate of occupancy for a hotel under this section shall
5 follow procedures that are consistent with the suspension or
6 revocation of a certificate of occupancy for any other type of
7 business or use of land within the municipality.

8 (e) This section may not be construed to create a private
9 cause of action.

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