

By: Lucio III, Hartnett

H. B. No. 1721

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

# 1 AN ACT

2 relating to protective orders for certain victims of stalking or  
3 sexual assault.

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

5 SECTION 1. Chapter 6, Code of Criminal Procedure, is  
6 amended by adding Article 6.09 to read as follows:

24 (c) The procedure for the enforcement of a protective order

1 under Title 4, Family Code, applies to the fullest extent  
2 practicable to the enforcement of a protective order under this  
3 article, including provisions relating to findings, contents,  
4 duration, warning, delivery, law enforcement duties, and  
5 modification.

6 SECTION 2. Chapter 7A, Code of Criminal Procedure, is  
7 amended by adding Article 7A.035 to read as follows:

8 Art. 7A.035. HEARSAY STATEMENT OF CHILD VICTIM. In a  
9 hearing on an application for a protective order under this  
10 chapter, a statement that is made by a child younger than 14 years  
11 of age who is the victim of an offense under Section 21.02, 21.11,  
12 22.011, or 22.021, Penal Code, and that describes the offense  
13 committed against the child is admissible as evidence in the same  
14 manner that a child's statement regarding alleged abuse against the  
15 child is admissible under Section 104.006, Family Code, in a suit  
16 affecting the parent-child relationship.

17 SECTION 3. (a) Article 6.09, Code of Criminal Procedure,  
18 as added by this Act, applies to the commission of an offense under  
19 Section 42.072, Penal Code, without regard to whether the offense  
20 was committed before, on, or after the effective date of this Act.

21 (b) Article 7A.035, Code of Criminal Procedure, as added by  
22 this Act, applies only to a hearing on an application for a  
23 protective order that is commenced on or after the effective date of  
24 this Act. A hearing on an application for a protective order that  
25 is commenced before the effective date of this Act is governed by  
26 the law in effect on the date the hearing was commenced, and the  
27 former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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1 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.