

By: Huffman, Lucio

S.B. No. 1708

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of a governor's program for victims of child sex trafficking.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 772, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 772.0063 to read as follows:

Sec. 772.0063. GOVERNOR'S PROGRAM FOR VICTIMS OF CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING. (a) The governor shall establish and implement a program to provide comprehensive, individualized services to address the rehabilitation and treatment needs of child victims of an offense under Section 20A.02(a)(7) or (8), Penal Code.

(b) The governor shall appoint a director of the program to serve at the pleasure of the governor.

(c) The director of the program shall coordinate with state and local law enforcement agencies, state agencies, and service providers to identify victims of child sex trafficking who are eligible to receive services under the program.

(d) For each victim of child sex trafficking identified by the director, the program shall immediately facilitate the assignment of a caseworker to the victim to coordinate with local service providers to create a customized package of services to fit the victim's immediate and long-term rehabilitation and treatment needs. Services provided under the program must address all aspects of the medical, psychiatric, psychological, safety, and

1 housing needs of victims.

2         SECTION 2. The governor shall establish the governor's  
3 program for victims of child sex trafficking and appoint a director  
4 of the program, as required by Section 772.0063, Government Code,  
5 as added by this Act, as soon as practicable and not later than  
6 December 1, 2016.

7         SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2015.