

BILL ANALYSIS

S.B. 72
By: Nelson
State Affairs
Committee Report (Unamended)

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

It has been noted that while there are many entities involved in efforts to address human trafficking in Texas, there is no single entity focused solely on coordinating these efforts and combatting trafficking. There have been calls for coordination of the human trafficking prevention programs and services administered by the state in order to effectively and efficiently address trafficking. S.B. 72 provides for the creation of the human trafficking prevention coordinating council for these purposes.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

ANALYSIS

S.B. 72 amends the Government Code to require the office of the attorney general to establish the human trafficking prevention coordinating council to develop and implement a five-year strategic plan for preventing human trafficking in Texas. The bill sets out the composition of the council and designates the attorney general or the attorney general's designee as the council's presiding officer. The bill requires the council, for each five-year period, to develop and implement a strategic plan for preventing human trafficking in Texas and to submit the plan to the legislature, the first of which must be submitted not later than May 1, 2020. The bill sets out the required contents of the strategic plan and requires the council, not later than December 1 of each year and beginning with the year following the year the council submits a strategic plan to the legislature, to submit to the legislature an annual report detailing the progress of the plan's implementation and containing certain specified information. The bill requires the office of the attorney general to make the strategic plan and annual reports available on the office's website.

EFFECTIVE DATE

September 1, 2019.