1-1 S.B. No. 610 By: Paxton (In the Senate - Filed December 13, 2024; February 3, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Business & Commerce; 1-2 1-3 1-4 March 19, 2025, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 10, 1-5 Nays 0; March 19, 2025, sent to printer.) 1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE 1-7 Yea Nay Absent PNV 1-8 Schwertner Х

1-9 King Х 1-10 1-11 Blanco Х Campbell Х 1-12 Creighton Х 1-13 Х Johnson χ 1-14 Kolkhorst 1**-**15 1**-**16 Menéndez Х Middleton Х 1-17 Nichols Χ 1-18 Zaffirini Х

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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED AN ACT

relating to combating human trafficking by the Texas Department of 1-21 1-22 Licensing and Regulation. 1-23

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS: SECTION 1. Chapter 51, Occupations Code, is amended by 1-24 1-25 adding Subchapter K to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER K. COMBATING HUMAN TRAFFICKING Sec. 51.551. ANTI-TRAFFICKING ACTIVITIES. The department may combat human trafficking by: 1-26 1-27 1-28 (1) establishing 1-29 within the department an

anti-trafficking unit; (2)___identifying 1-30 1-31 businesses operating within industries regulated by the department that are impacted by human 1-32 1-33 trafficking; and

coordinating with: (3)

1-35 (A) the office of the attorney general, including 1-36 any council, task force, or work group established by that office to combat human trafficking; 1-37

1-38 (B) local, state, and federal law enforcement 1-39 agencies; and

1-40 (C) any nongovernmental entity engaged in efforts to combat human trafficking or assist victims. Sec. 51.552. RULES. The commission may add combat human trafficking for any program regul 1-41 1-42 rules to

The commission may adopt for any program regulated by the 1-43 department, including rules for conducting inspections 1-44 and 1-45 investigations under Section 51.351.

Sec. 51.553. CONFIDENTIALITY OF RECORDS IDENTIFYING VICTIMS OF HUMAN TRAFFICKING. (a) Information that identifies an individual as a victim of human trafficking is confidential and 1-46 1-47 1-48 1-49 excepted from disclosure under Section 552.021, Government Code.

1-50 (b) The department may withhold the information without the necessity of requesting a decision from the attorney general under 1-51 Subchapter G, Chapter 552, Government Code. SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025. 1-52

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