

Bill Summary
1st Session of the 57th Legislature

Bill No.:	SB 715
Version:	CS1
Request No.:	1999
Author:	Sen. Paxton
Date:	02/27/2019

Committee Substitute (CS)

The CS for SB 715 creates the Protection from Workplace Violence Act. The CS allows employers with an employee facing credible threats of violence to seek relief under the provisions of the Protection from Workplace Violence Act on behalf of the employee. If the court is shown good cause, the protection order may be extended to the employee's family or household members. The employer may only file for an order if the employee filed a complaint against the defendant with the proper law enforcement agency.

The court is prohibited from collecting a fine or fee for the filing of a protective order, unless the filing was determined to be frivolous. The plaintiff may also request for an emergency ex parte order, which may be granted within a 24 hour period. If the order is not requested under emergency circumstances, a hearing shall be held within 14 days of the filing. A petition may be renewed every 14 days until the defendant is served. A copy of the ex parte order or protective order shall be served to the defendant. Any defendant found to have violated the order shall be subject to a fine of not more than \$1,000.00 and/or a term of imprisonment no longer than one year. Subsequent violations of the order shall result in escalating fines and terms of imprisonment.

Prepared by: Kalen Taylor