

CHAPTER 807

H.B. No. 2456

AN ACT

relating to the operation of a toll-free crime stoppers telephone service for areas of the state not served by a local crime stoppers program.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Chapter 414, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 414.012 to read as follows:

Sec. 414.012. TOLL-FREE TELEPHONE SERVICE. The council shall establish and operate a toll-free telephone service and make the service accessible to persons residing in areas of the state not served by a local crime stoppers program for reporting to the council information about criminal acts. The toll-free service must be available between the hours of 5 p.m. and 8 a.m. Monday through Thursday and from 5 p.m. Friday until 8 a.m. Monday. The council shall forward the information received to appropriate law enforcement agencies or local crime stoppers program.

SECTION 2. Article 102.013(g), Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

(g) The legislature shall appropriate funds from the crime stoppers assistance account to the Criminal Justice Division of the Governor's Office. The Criminal Justice Division *may use 10 percent of the funds for the operation of the toll-free telephone service under Section 414.012, Government Code, and shall distribute the remainder of the [these] funds only to local crime stoppers programs. The Criminal Justice Division may adopt a budget and rules to implement the distribution of these funds.*

SECTION 3. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended, and that this Act take effect and be in force from and after its passage, and it is so enacted.

Passed by the House on May 10, 1993, by a non-record vote; passed by the Senate on May 29, 1993: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Approved June 18, 1993.

Effective Aug. 30, 1993, 90 days after date of adjournment.