

By: Campos

H.B. No. 1653

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to an attack by a dangerous dog; increasing a criminal penalty.

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

SECTION 1. Section 822.044, Health and Safety Code, is amended by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

(b) Except as provided by Subsection (b-1), an ~~[An]~~ offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

(b-1) An offense under this section is a Class B misdemeanor if it is shown on trial of the offense that the defendant has been previously convicted of an offense under this section.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense was committed before that date.

SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.