

By: Guillen

H.B. No. 2345

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to definitions for purposes of gambling criminal offenses.

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

SECTION 1. Section 47.01, Penal Code, is amended by adding Subdivision (2-a) and amending Subdivision (8) to read as follows:

(2-a) "Economic benefit" means direct winnings from a game of skill or luck. The term does not include a benefit received before a game commences or after payment of the direct winnings from the game.

(8) "Private place" means a place to which the public does not have access without a valid membership, special invitation, or prior grant of permission~~[7]~~ and excludes, among other places, streets, highways, restaurants, taverns, nightclubs, schools, hospitals, and the common areas of apartment houses, hotels, motels, office buildings, transportation facilities, and shops.

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 occurred before that date.

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