

By: Anchía

H.B. No. 2695

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the use of a social media platform in furtherance of an offense involving the delivery of a controlled substance; increasing criminal penalties.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 481, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 481.142 to read as follows:

Sec. 481.142. USE OF SOCIAL MEDIA PLATFORM FOR DELIVERY OF CONTROLLED SUBSTANCE. (a) "Social media platform" has the meaning assigned by Section 120.001, Business & Commerce Code.

(b) If it is shown on the trial of an offense under Section 481.112, 481.1121, 481.1123, 481.113, 481.114, 481.119, 481.120, or 481.122, involving the delivery of a controlled substance that the defendant used a social media platform in furtherance of the offense, the punishment for the offense is increased to the punishment prescribed by the next higher category of offense, except that the punishment for a felony of the first degree is increased by five years and the maximum fine for the offense is doubled.

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 at the time the offense was committed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For

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1 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the
2 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred
3 before that date.

4 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.