

By: Menendez

H.B. No. 520

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the punishment for individuals who evade arrest after committing the offense of murder.

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

SECTION 1. Section 19.02, Penal Code, is amended by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(c) Except as provided by Subsections [~~Subsection~~] (d) and (e), an offense under this section is a felony of the first degree.

(e) The minimum term of imprisonment otherwise imposed on conviction of a felony of the first degree under this section is increased by five years for each 12-month period after the date on which the offense is committed until the date on which the defendant is arrested for the commission of the offense.

SECTION 2. Section 508.145, Government Code, is amended by adding Subsection (g) to read as follows:

(g) An inmate serving a sentence for an offense for which the punishment is increased under Section 19.02(e), Penal Code, is not eligible for release on parole until the inmate's actual calendar time served equals the minimum time required under Subsection (d) plus the period for which punishment is increased under Section 19.02(e), Penal Code.

SECTION 3. (a) This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

(b) The change in law made by this Act applies only to an

1 offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An
2 offense committed before the effective date of this Act is covered
3 by the law in effect when the offense was committed, and the former
4 law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this
5 section, an offense was committed before the effective date of this
6 Act if any element of the offense was committed before that date.