

By: Quintanilla

H.B. No. 713

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the punishment for forgery committed against an elderly
3 person.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 32.21, Penal Code, is amended by adding
6 Subsection (e-1) to read as follows:

7 (e-1) If it is shown on the trial of an offense under this
8 section that in committing the offense the defendant defrauded or
9 harmed an elderly individual, as that term is defined by Section
10 22.04, the punishment for:

11 (1) an offense otherwise punishable as a misdemeanor
12 is increased to the punishment for a state jail felony; and

13 (2) a felony of the third degree is increased to the
14 punishment prescribed for a felony of the second degree.

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

23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.