

By: Strama

H.B. No. 906

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

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relating to the making, authorization, and acceptance of political contributions in certain state buildings; providing civil and criminal penalties.

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

SECTION 1. Section 253.039, Election Code, is amended by amending Subsections (a), (b), and (c) and adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

(a) A person may not knowingly make or authorize a political contribution while in a state building [~~the Capitol~~] to:

- (1) a candidate or officeholder;
- (2) a political committee; or
- (3) a person acting on behalf of a candidate, officeholder, or political committee.

(b) A candidate, officeholder, or political committee or a person acting on behalf of a candidate, officeholder, or political committee may not knowingly accept a political contribution, and shall refuse a political contribution that is received, in a state building [~~the Capitol~~].

(c) This section does not prohibit contributions made in a state building [~~the Capitol~~] through the United States postal service or a common or contract carrier.

(e) In this section, "state building" means any building owned or occupied by the state, including a building or office

1 leased to the state for state purposes, that is used by a state
2 officer or state agency.

3 SECTION 2. (a) The change in law made by this Act applies
4 only to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this
5 Act. For purposes of this section, an offense is committed before
6 the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurs
7 before that date.

8 (b) An offense committed before the effective date of this
9 Act is covered by the law in effect when the offense was committed,
10 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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