

By: Raymond, Homer, Swinford, Chisum,  
Cook of Colorado

H.B. No. 167

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to exempting a religious bible from attachment, execution,  
or other seizure for the satisfaction of debts.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 42.001(b) and (c), Property Code, are  
amended to read as follows:

(b) The following personal property is exempt from seizure  
and is not included in the aggregate limitations prescribed by  
Subsection (a):

(1) current wages for personal services, except for  
the enforcement of court-ordered child support payments;

(2) professionally prescribed health aids of a debtor  
or a dependent of a debtor; ~~and~~

(3) alimony, support, or separate maintenance  
received or to be received by the debtor for the support of the  
debtor or a dependent of the debtor; and

(4) a religious bible or other book containing sacred  
writings of a religion.

(c) Except as provided by Subsection (b)(4), this ~~[This]~~  
section does not prevent seizure by a secured creditor with a  
contractual landlord's lien or other security in the property to be  
seized.

SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act do not apply  
to property that is, as of the effective date of this Act, subject

1 to a voluntary bankruptcy proceeding or to valid claims of a holder  
2 of a final judgment who has, by levy or other legal process,  
3 obtained rights superior to those that would otherwise be held by a  
4 trustee in bankruptcy if a bankruptcy petition were then pending  
5 against the debtor. That property is subject to the law as it  
6 existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and the  
7 prior law is continued in effect for that purpose.

8 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.