

1-1 By: Raymond, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Hinojosa) H.B. No. 167
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House March 29, 2007;
1-3 April 3, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Jurisprudence; May 10, 2007, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 4, Nays 0; May 10, 2007, sent to printer.)

1-6 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-7 AN ACT

1-8 relating to exempting a religious bible from attachment, execution,
1-9 or other seizure for the satisfaction of debts.

1-10 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-11 SECTION 1. Sections 42.001(b) and (c), Property Code, are
1-12 amended to read as follows:

1-13 (b) The following personal property is exempt from seizure
1-14 and is not included in the aggregate limitations prescribed by
1-15 Subsection (a):

1-16 (1) current wages for personal services, except for
1-17 the enforcement of court-ordered child support payments;

1-18 (2) professionally prescribed health aids of a debtor
1-19 or a dependent of a debtor; ~~and~~

1-20 (3) alimony, support, or separate maintenance
1-21 received or to be received by the debtor for the support of the
1-22 debtor or a dependent of the debtor; and

1-23 (4) a religious bible or other book containing sacred
1-24 writings of a religion.

1-25 (c) Except as provided by Subsection (b)(4), this ~~[This]~~
1-26 section does not prevent seizure by a secured creditor with a
1-27 contractual landlord's lien or other security in the property to be
1-28 seized.

1-29 SECTION 2. The changes in law made by this Act do not apply
1-30 to property that is, as of the effective date of this Act, subject
1-31 to a voluntary bankruptcy proceeding or to valid claims of a holder
1-32 of a final judgment who has, by levy or other legal process,
1-33 obtained rights superior to those that would otherwise be held by a
1-34 trustee in bankruptcy if a bankruptcy petition were then pending
1-35 against the debtor. That property is subject to the law as it
1-36 existed immediately before the effective date of this Act, and the
1-37 prior law is continued in effect for that purpose.

1-38 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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