

By: Flores

H.B. No. 465

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the licensing and regulation of bail bond sureties;  
3 creating an offense.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 1704, Occupations Code, is  
6 amended by adding Section 1704.1605 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 1704.1605. APPRENTICESHIP PROHIBITED. A board may not  
8 require an applicant to serve as an apprentice before or after being  
9 issued a license. This prohibition does not apply to the work  
10 experience required by Section 1704.152(a)(4)(A).

11 SECTION 2. Chapter 17, Code of Criminal Procedure, is  
12 amended by adding Article 17.142 to read as follows:

13 Art. 17.142. FEE FOR COURT APPEARANCE BY ELIGIBLE BAIL BOND  
14 SURETY. (a) An eligible bail bond surety who attends a court  
15 proceeding at the request of a defendant but who is not a surety for  
16 the defendant may not charge the defendant a fee:

17 (1) for serving as a bail bond surety; and

18 (2) that exceeds \$35 for attending the court  
19 proceeding.

20 (b) A person commits an offense if the person charges a fee  
21 in excess of the amount allowed under Subsection (a).

22 (c) An offense under this section is a Class C misdemeanor.

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