

By: Mallory Caraway

H.B. No. 2950

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the punishment of certain offenses committed by using a vehicle to enter a building or other structure.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter D, Chapter 12, Penal Code, is amended by adding Section 12.50 to read as follows:

Sec. 12.50. PENALTY IF VEHICLE USED TO COMMIT CERTAIN OFFENSES. (a) If it is shown on the trial of an offense under Chapter 28, 29, 30, or 31, other than an offense punishable as a felony of the first degree or a Class A misdemeanor, that the actor operated a vehicle into or through a wall, door, or window of a building or other structure to enable the actor to commit the offense, the punishment for the offense is increased to the punishment prescribed for the next higher category of offense. If the offense is a Class A misdemeanor, the minimum term of confinement is increased to 180 days.

(b) In this section, "vehicle" has the meaning assigned by Section 30.01.

SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect when the offense was committed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the

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1 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred
2 before that date.

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