

AN ACT

relating to the use of political contributions to make payments in connection with the rental or purchase of certain real property; providing a criminal penalty.

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

SECTION 1. Section 253.038, Election Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) A candidate or officeholder or a specific-purpose committee for supporting, opposing, or assisting the candidate or officeholder may not knowingly make or authorize a payment from a political contribution for the rental or purchase of real property from:

(1) a person related within the second degree by consanguinity or affinity, as determined under Chapter 573, Government Code, to the candidate or officeholder; or

(2) a business in which the candidate or officeholder or a person described by Subdivision (1) has a participating interest of more than 10 percent, holds a position on the governing body, or serves as an officer.

SECTION 2. The heading to Section 253.038, Election Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 253.038. PAYMENTS MADE TO PURCHASE REAL PROPERTY OR TO RENT CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY PROHIBITED.

SECTION 3. Section 253.038(a-1), Election Code, as added by

1 this Act, applies to a payment made from political contributions on
2 or after September 1, 2007, without regard to whether the payment
3 was made under a lease or other agreement entered into before that
4 date. A payment made from political contributions before September
5 1, 2007, is governed by the law in effect on the date the payment was
6 made, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

7 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 3066 was passed by the House on May 4, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting; that the House refused to concur in Senate amendments to H.B. No. 3066 on May 24, 2007, and requested the appointment of a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the House adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 3066 on May 27, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 142, Nays 0, 2 present, not voting.

Chief Clerk of the House

H.B. No. 3066

I certify that H.B. No. 3066 was passed by the Senate, with amendments, on May 22, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; at the request of the House, the Senate appointed a conference committee to consider the differences between the two houses; and that the Senate adopted the conference committee report on H.B. No. 3066 on May 26, 2007, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: _____

Date

Governor