

By: Truitt

H.B. No. 3066

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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AN ACT

relating to the use of political contributions to make payments in connection with the rental 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 of real property from:

(1) a person related in 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 this Act, applies to a payment made from political contributions on

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

7 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives  
8 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as  
9 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this  
10 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this  
11 Act takes effect September 1, 2007.