

By: Hilderbran

H.B. No. 3846

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the punishment for failing to stop following a motor vehicle or vessel accident.

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

SECTION 1. Section 31.127(d), Parks and Wildlife Code, is amended to read as follows:

(d) The operator of a vessel who is involved in a collision, accident, or other casualty that results in death or serious bodily injury to another person and fails to comply with Section 31.104 commits an offense that is a Parks and Wildlife Code felony, except that if it is shown on the trial of the offense that another person died as a result of the collision, accident, or other casualty, the maximum term of confinement in the Texas Department of Criminal Justice is increased to 20 years.

SECTION 2. Section 550.021(c), Transportation Code, is amended to read as follows:

(c) A person commits an offense if the person does not stop or does not comply with the requirements of this section. An offense under this section:

(1) involving an accident resulting in death of a person is a felony of the second degree; and

(2) involving an accident resulting in injury to but not death of a person is punishable by:

(A) [~~1~~] imprisonment in the [~~institutional~~

1 ~~division of the~~] Texas Department of Criminal Justice for not more  
2 than five years or confinement in the county jail for not more than  
3 one year;

4                   (B) [~~(2)~~] a fine not to exceed \$5,000; or

5                   (C) [~~(3)~~] both the fine and the imprisonment or  
6 confinement.

7           SECTION 3. (a) The change in law made by this Act applies  
8 only to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this  
9 Act. For the purposes of this section, an offense is committed  
10 before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense  
11 occurs before that date.

12           (b) An offense committed before the effective date of this  
13 Act is governed by the law in effect when the offense was committed,  
14 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

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