

By: Darby

H.B. No. 671

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the penalty for theft from a nonprofit organization.

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

SECTION 1. Section 31.03(f), Penal Code, is amended to read as follows:

(f) An offense described for purposes of punishment by Subsections (e)(1)-(6) is increased to the next higher category of offense if it is shown on the trial of the offense that:

(1) the actor was a public servant at the time of the offense and the property appropriated came into the actor's custody, possession, or control by virtue of his status as a public servant;

(2) the actor was in a contractual relationship with government at the time of the offense and the property appropriated came into the actor's custody, possession, or control by virtue of the contractual relationship; or

(3) the owner of the property appropriated was at the time of the offense:

(A) an elderly individual; or

(B) a nonprofit organization.

SECTION 2. Section 31.03(h), Penal Code, is amended by adding Subdivision (3) to read as follows:

(3) "Nonprofit organization" means an organization that is exempt from federal income taxation under Section 501(a),

1 Internal Revenue Code of 1986, by being described as an exempt
2 organization by Section 501(c)(3) of that code.

3 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only
4 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.
5 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is
6 covered by the law in effect when the offense was committed, and the
7 former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of
8 this section, an offense was committed before the effective date of
9 this Act if any element of the offense was committed before that
10 date.

11 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.