

By: Anchia, et al.

H.B. No. 1359

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 1359:

By: Anchia

C.S.H.B. No. 1359

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to the making or acceptance of political contributions in
3 a courthouse; providing penalties.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 253.039, Election Code, is amended by
6 adding Subsections (a-1), (b-1), and (h) and amending Subsection
7 (c) to read as follows:

8 (a-1) A person may not knowingly make or authorize a
9 political contribution while in a courthouse to:

10 (1) a candidate for or officeholder of an office
11 described by Section 253.151 or the office of justice of the peace;

12 (2) a political committee supporting or opposing a
13 candidate for or holder of an office described by Section 253.151 or
14 the office of justice of the peace; or

15 (3) a person acting on behalf of a candidate,
16 officeholder, or committee described by Subdivision (1) or (2).

17 (b-1) A person described by Subsection (a-1) may not
18 knowingly accept a political contribution, and shall refuse a
19 political contribution that is received, in a courthouse.

20 (c) This section does not prohibit contributions made in the
21 Capitol or a courthouse through the United States postal service or
22 a common or contract carrier.

23 (h) In this section, "courthouse" means any building owned
24 by the state, a county, or a municipality, or an office or part of a

1 building leased to the state, a county, or a municipality, in which
2 a justice or judge sits to conduct court proceedings.

3 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.