

By: Bonnen

H.B. No. 3551

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 3551:

By: Elkins

C.S.H.B. No. 3551

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1

AN ACT

2 relating to the notice to vacate the premises in forcible entry and
3 detainer actions.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 24.005, Property Code, is amended by
6 adding Subsection (j) to read as follows:

7 (j) The notice to vacate must contain the following or
8 substantially similar language:

9 A PERSON WHO INTENTIONALLY OR KNOWINGLY DAMAGES OR DESTROYS
10 THE PROPERTY THAT IS THE SUBJECT OF THIS NOTICE TO VACATE COMMITS A
11 CRIME AND MAY BE SUBJECT TO A FINE, IMPRISONMENT, OR BOTH A FINE AND
12 IMPRISONMENT. DEPENDING ON THE AMOUNT OF LOSS INCURRED BY THE OWNER
13 OF THE PROPERTY, THE CRIME MAY BE A MISDEMEANOR OR A FELONY.

14 SECTION 2. This Act applies only to a notice to vacate the
15 premises in a forcible entry and detainer action that is given on or
16 after the effective date of this Act, without regard to whether the
17 action commenced before, on, or after that date.

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