

By: Williams

S.B. No. 1281

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the fraudulent obtaining of a controlled substance from a practitioner; providing a penalty.

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

SECTION 1. Section 481.129, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subsections (a-1) and (d-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) A person commits an offense if the person, with the intent to obtain a controlled substance or combination of controlled substances that is not medically necessary for the person or an amount of a controlled substance or substances that is not medically necessary for the person, obtains or attempts to obtain from a practitioner a controlled substance or a prescription for a controlled substance by misrepresentation, fraud, forgery, deception, subterfuge, or concealment of a material fact. For purposes of this subsection, a material fact includes whether the person has an existing prescription for a controlled substance issued for the same period of time by another practitioner.

(d-1) An offense under Subsection (a-1) is:

(1) a felony of the second degree if any controlled substance that is the subject of the offense is listed in Schedule I or II;

(2) a felony of the third degree if any controlled substance that is the subject of the offense is listed in Schedule III or IV; and

1           (3) a Class A misdemeanor if any controlled substance  
2 that is the subject of the offense is listed in Schedule V.

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