

By: Price

H.B. No. 1601

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to consecutive sentences for certain offenses involving
3 injury to a child, an elderly individual, or a disabled individual
4 and arising out of the same criminal episode.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 3.03(b), Penal Code, is amended to read
7 as follows:

8 (b) If the accused is found guilty of more than one offense
9 arising out of the same criminal episode, the sentences may run
10 concurrently or consecutively if each sentence is for a conviction
11 of:

12 (1) an offense:

13 (A) under Section 49.07 or 49.08, regardless of
14 whether the accused is convicted of violations of the same section
15 more than once or is convicted of violations of both sections; or

16 (B) for which a plea agreement was reached in a
17 case in which the accused was charged with more than one offense
18 listed in Paragraph (A), regardless of whether the accused is
19 charged with violations of the same section more than once or is
20 charged with violations of both sections;

21 (2) an offense:

22 (A) under Section 33.021 or an offense under
23 Section 21.02, 21.11, 22.011, 22.021, 25.02, or 43.25 committed
24 against a victim younger than 17 years of age at the time of the

1 commission of the offense regardless of whether the accused is
2 convicted of violations of the same section more than once or is
3 convicted of violations of more than one section; or

4 (B) for which a plea agreement was reached in a
5 case in which the accused was charged with more than one offense
6 listed in Paragraph (A) committed against a victim younger than 17
7 years of age at the time of the commission of the offense regardless
8 of whether the accused is charged with violations of the same
9 section more than once or is charged with violations of more than
10 one section;

11 (3) an offense:

12 (A) under Section 21.15 or 43.26, regardless of
13 whether the accused is convicted of violations of the same section
14 more than once or is convicted of violations of both sections; or

15 (B) for which a plea agreement was reached in a
16 case in which the accused was charged with more than one offense
17 listed in Paragraph (A), regardless of whether the accused is
18 charged with violations of the same section more than once or is
19 charged with violations of both sections; [~~or~~]

20 (4) an offense for which the judgment in the case
21 contains an affirmative finding under Article 42.0197, Code of
22 Criminal Procedure; or

23 (5) an offense:

24 (A) under Section 22.04(a)(1) or (2) or Section
25 22.04(a-1)(1) or (2) that is punishable as a felony of the first
26 degree, regardless of whether the accused is convicted of
27 violations of the same section more than once or is convicted of

1 violations of more than one section; or
2 (B) for which a plea agreement was reached in a
3 case in which the accused was charged with more than one offense
4 listed in Paragraph (A) and punishable as described by that
5 paragraph, regardless of whether the accused is charged with
6 violations of the same section more than once or is charged with
7 violations of more than one section.

8 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
9 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.
10 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is
11 governed by the law in effect at the time the offense was committed,
12 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For
13 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the
14 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred
15 before that date.

16 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2011.