

By: Zedler

H.B. No. 3424

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the creation of the offense for knowingly influencing
3 or attempting to influence one or more members of the legislature
4 through coercion or an offer of a benefit to prevent a quorum;
5 providing penalties.

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

7 SECTION 1. Chapter 36, Penal Code, is amended by adding
8 Section 36.11 to read as follows:

9 Sec. 36.11. PREVENTING A LEGISLATIVE QUORUM. (a) A person
10 commits an offense if he knowingly influences or attempts to
11 influence one or more members of the legislature to prevent a quorum
12 to do business by using:

13 (1) any form of coercion; or

14 (2) any offer of benefit.

15 (b) An offense under this section is a Class B misdemeanor.

16 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
20 Act takes effect September 1, 2011.