

By: Muñoz, Jr.

H.B. No. 1088

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the creation of the offense of prohibited conduct of a bail bond surety.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 38, Penal Code, is amended by adding Section 38.124 to read as follows:

Sec. 38.124. PROHIBITED CONDUCT OF BAIL BOND SURETY. (a) A person who is a surety on a bail bond in a criminal case commits an offense if the person knowingly prepares, provides, or otherwise makes available to the defendant in the case a form for a motion to reduce the amount of the defendant's bond or for a motion to change the conditions of the defendant's bond.

(b) It is a defense to prosecution under this section that the actor is currently licensed to practice law in this state, another state, or a foreign country and in good standing with the State Bar of Texas and the state bar or licensing authority of any and all other states and foreign countries where licensed.

(c) An offense under this section is a state jail felony.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.