

By: Shaheen

H.B. No. 1686

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to the punishment for the offense of fraudulent  
3 destruction, removal, or concealment of a writing that is attached  
4 to tangible property.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 32.47, Penal Code, is amended by  
7 amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (e) to read as  
8 follows:

9 (c) Except as provided by ~~[in]~~ Subsection (d), an offense  
10 under this section is a Class A misdemeanor, provided that the  
11 writing is not attached to tangible property to indicate the price  
12 for the sale of that property.

13 (e) If at the time of the offense the writing was attached to  
14 tangible property to indicate the price for the sale of that  
15 property, an offense under this section is:

16 (1) a Class C misdemeanor if the value of the property  
17 is less than \$100;

18 (2) a Class B misdemeanor if the value of the property  
19 is \$100 or more but less than \$750;

20 (3) a Class A misdemeanor if the value of the property  
21 is \$750 or more but less than \$2,500;

22 (4) a state jail felony if the value of the property is  
23 \$2,500 or more but less than \$30,000;

24 (5) a felony of the third degree if the value of the

1 property is \$30,000 or more but less than \$150,000;

2 (6) a felony of the second degree if the value of the  
3 property is \$150,000 or more but less than \$300,000; or

4 (7) a felony of the first degree if the value of the  
5 property is \$300,000 or more.

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

14 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.