86R13443 AJZ-D

By:  Klick H.B. No. 2443

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the punishment for certain offenses involving parking in a space designated for persons with disabilities.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 681.011, Transportation Code, is amended by amending Subsection (g) and adding Subsections (g-1) and (g-2) to read as follows:

(g)  Except as provided by Subsections (g-1), (h), (i), (j), and (k) [~~(h)-(k)~~], an offense under this section is a misdemeanor punishable by a fine of not less than $500 or more than $750.

(g-1)  In lieu of imposing a fine on conviction under Subsection (g), the court may order a person who has not previously been convicted of an offense under this section to:

(1)  perform community service at a nonprofit organization that serves persons with disabilities or persons with disabling diseases;

(2)  perform any community service that may sensitize the person to the needs of and obstacles faced by persons with disabilities; or

(3)  attend education classes on disability awareness and accessible parking.

(g-2)  The court shall set the number of hours of community service or education classes required under Subsection (g-1).

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

SECTION 3.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.