

By: Turner of Tarrant

H.B. No. 4237

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the criminal offense of stalking.

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

SECTION 1. Section 42.072(a), Penal Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person commits an offense if the person, on more than one occasion and pursuant to the same scheme or course of conduct that is directed specifically at the victim [~~another person~~], knowingly engages in conduct that:

(1) constitutes an offense under Section 42.07, or that the actor knows or reasonably should know the victim [~~other person~~] will regard as threatening:

(A) bodily injury or death for the victim [~~other person~~];

(B) bodily injury or death for:

(i) a member of the victim's [~~other person's~~] family or household; or

(ii) [~~for~~] an individual with whom the victim [~~other person~~] has a dating relationship; or

(C) that an offense will be committed against the victim's [~~other person's~~] property;

(2) causes the victim [~~other person~~], a member of the victim's [~~other person's~~] family or household, or an individual with whom the victim [~~other person~~] has a dating relationship;

1           (A) to be placed in fear of bodily injury or death  
2 or [~~in fear~~] that an offense will be committed against the victim's  
3 [~~other person's~~] property;; [~~7~~] or

4           (B) to feel harassed, annoyed, alarmed, abused,  
5 tormented, embarrassed, or offended; and

6           (3) would cause a reasonable person to:

7           (A) fear bodily injury or death for himself or  
8 herself;

9           (B) fear bodily injury or death for:

10           (i) a member of the person's family or  
11 household;; or

12           (ii) [~~for~~] an individual with whom the  
13 person has a dating relationship;

14           (C) fear that an offense will be committed  
15 against the person's property; or

16           (D) feel harassed, annoyed, alarmed, abused,  
17 tormented, embarrassed, or offended.

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

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