

By: Reynolds

H.B. No. 2358

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to increasing the criminal penalty for certain false
3 reports that are made to certain law enforcement and corrections
4 entities.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 37.08, Penal Code, is amended by
7 amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (d) to read as
8 follows:

9 (c) Except as otherwise provided by Subsection (d), an [A]
10 offense under this section is a Class B misdemeanor.

11 (d) If it is shown on the trial of an offense under this
12 section that the false statement consisted of an allegation that
13 another person engaged in conduct violating a penal law of this
14 state, the offense is the greater of:

15 (1) the category of offense of the most serious
16 offense falsely reported; or

17 (2) a Class A misdemeanor.

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

1 before that date.

2 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.