

By: Bettencourt

S.B. No. 532

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the release of certain defendants on personal bond or on bail.

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

SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the Caitlyne Rose Infinger Guajardo Act.

SECTION 2. Article 17.03, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended by amending Subsection (a) and adding Subsection (b-2) to read as follows:

(a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), ~~or~~ (b-1), or (b-2), a magistrate may, in the magistrate's discretion, release the defendant on personal bond without sureties or other security.

(b-2) A magistrate may not release on personal bond a defendant who is charged with:

(1) an offense alleged to have been committed while the defendant was released on personal bond for another offense; or

(2) an offense punishable as a felony if two or more other felony charges are pending against the defendant.

SECTION 3. Chapter 17, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended by adding Article 17.1501 to read as follows:

Art. 17.1501. MINIMUM AMOUNT OF BAIL FOR DEFENDANT CHARGED WITH MULTIPLE FELONIES. The amount of bail required for a defendant who is charged with three or more felony offenses, regardless of whether each charge is pending before the same court, shall be set

1 in an amount not less than \$10,000 for each felony offense charged  
2 against the defendant.

3         SECTION 4. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
4 to a person who is arrested on or after the effective date of this  
5 Act. A person arrested before the effective date of this Act is  
6 governed by the law in effect on the date the person was arrested,  
7 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose.

8         SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.