

By: Huffman

S.B. No. 287

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the prosecution of the offense of terroristic threat.

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

SECTION 1. Section 22.07(a), Penal Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) A person commits an offense if the person [~~he~~] threatens to commit any offense involving violence to any person or property with intent to:

(1) cause a reaction of any type to the [~~his~~] threat by an official or volunteer agency organized to deal with emergencies;

(2) place any person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury;

(3) prevent or interrupt the occupation or use of a building, room, place of assembly, place to which the public has access, place of employment or occupation, aircraft, automobile, or other form of conveyance, or other public place;

(4) cause impairment or interruption of public communications, public transportation, public water, gas, or power supply or other public service;

(5) place the public or a substantial group of the public in fear of serious bodily injury; or

(6) influence the conduct or activities of:

(A) a branch or agency of the federal government, the state, or a political subdivision of the state;

- 1 (B) a child-care facility;
- 2 (C) a public or private primary or secondary
- 3 school; or
- 4 (D) an institution of higher education or a
- 5 private or independent institution of higher education.

6 SECTION 2. Section 22.07(f), Penal Code, is amended by
7 amending Subdivision (1) and adding Subdivisions (1-a) and (4) to
8 read as follows:

9 (1) "Child-care facility" has the meaning assigned by
10 Section 42.002, Human Resources Code.

11 (1-a) "Family" has the meaning assigned by Section
12 71.003, Family Code.

13 (4) "Institution of higher education" and "private or
14 independent institution of higher education" have the meanings
15 assigned by Section 61.003, Education Code.

16 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only
17 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.
18 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is
19 governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed,
20 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For
21 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the
22 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred
23 before that date.

24 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.