

By: Metcalf

H.B. No. 2594

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the venue for the prosecution of certain criminal
conduct involving theft.

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

SECTION 1. Article 13A.251, Code of Criminal Procedure, is
amended by adding Subsection (a-1) to read as follows:

(a-1) An offense involving theft of intangible personal
property may be prosecuted in the county:

(1) in which the person whose property was unlawfully
appropriated resides;

(2) in which the defendant is apprehended; or

(3) to which the defendant is extradited.

SECTION 2. Article 13A.501, Code of Criminal Procedure, is
amended to read as follows:

Art. 13A.501. ENGAGING IN ORGANIZED CRIMINAL ACTIVITY.
Engaging in organized criminal activity may be prosecuted in:

(1) any county in which an act is committed to effect
an objective of the combination;

(2) if the prosecution is based on an offense
involving theft of intangible personal property, the county:

(A) in which the person whose property was
unlawfully appropriated resides;

(B) in which the defendant is apprehended; or

(C) to which the defendant is extradited;

1 (3) if the prosecution is based on an offense
2 classified as a felony under Chapter 32, Penal Code:

3 (A) any county in which a victim resides;

4 (B) the county in which the defendant is
5 apprehended; or

6 (C) the county to which the defendant is
7 extradited; or

8 (4) ~~[(2)]~~ if the prosecution is based on an offense
9 classified as a felony under the Tax Code, any county in which venue
10 is proper under the Tax Code for the offense.

11 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only
12 to the prosecution of an offense committed on or after the effective
13 date of this Act. The prosecution of an offense committed before
14 the effective date of this Act is governed by the law in effect on
15 the date the offense was committed, and the former law is continued
16 in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, an
17 offense was committed before the effective date of this Act if any
18 element of the offense occurred before that date.

19 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.