

By: Flores, Kolthorst, West

S.B. No. 1379

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to increasing the criminal penalties for forgery.

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

SECTION 1. Sections 32.21(c), (d), (e), (e-1), and (e-2), Penal Code, are amended to read as follows:

(c) Except as provided by Subsections (d), (e), and (e-1), an offense under this section is a state jail felony [~~Class A misdemeanor~~].

(d) Subject to Subsection (e-1), an offense under this section is a [~~state jail~~] felony of the third degree if the writing is or purports to be a will, codicil, deed, deed of trust, mortgage, security instrument, security agreement, credit card, check, authorization to debit an account at a financial institution, or similar sight order for payment of money, contract, release, or other commercial instrument.

(e) Subject to Subsection (e-1), an offense under this section is a felony of the second [~~third~~] degree if the writing is or purports to be:

(1) part of an issue of money, securities, postage or revenue stamps;

(2) a government record listed in Section 37.01(2)(C);
or

(3) other instruments issued by a state or national government or by a subdivision of either, or part of an issue of

1 stock, bonds, or other instruments representing interests in or
2 claims against another person.

3 (e-1) If it is shown on the trial of an offense under this
4 section that the actor engaged in the conduct to obtain or attempt
5 to obtain a property or service, an offense under this section is:

6 (1) a Class B [~~C~~] misdemeanor if the value of the
7 property or service is less than \$100;

8 (2) a Class A [~~B~~] misdemeanor if the value of the
9 property or service is \$100 or more but less than \$750;

10 (3) a state jail felony [~~Class A misdemeanor~~] if the
11 value of the property or service is \$750 or more but less than
12 \$2,500;

13 (4) a [~~state jail~~] felony of the third degree if the
14 value of the property or service is \$2,500 or more but less than
15 \$30,000;

16 (5) a felony of the second [~~third~~] degree if the value
17 of the property or service is \$30,000 or more but less than
18 \$150,000; and

19 (6) a felony of the first [~~second~~] degree if the value
20 of the property or service is \$150,000 or more [~~but less than~~
21 ~~\$300,000, and~~

22 [~~(7) a felony of the first degree if the value of the~~
23 ~~property or service is \$300,000 or more]~~.

24 (e-2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this section,
25 an offense under this section, other than an offense described for
26 purposes of punishment by Subsection (e-1)(6) [~~(e-1)(7)~~], is
27 increased to the next higher category of offense if it is shown on

1 the trial of the offense that the offense was committed against an
2 elderly individual as defined by Section [22.04](#).

3 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
4 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.
5 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is
6 governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed,
7 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For
8 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the
9 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred
10 before that date.

11 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.