By: Little H.B. No. 1082

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to prohibiting the operation of virtual currency kiosks; creating a criminal offense.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle E, Title 3, Finance Code, is amended by adding Chapter 161 to read as follows:

CHAPTER 161. VIRTUAL CURRENCY KIOSKS

Sec. 161.001. DEFINITIONS. In this chapter:

(1) "Electronic terminal" has the meaning assigned by Section 31.002.

(2) "Virtual currency" has the meaning assigned by Section 12.001, Business & Commerce Code.

(3) "Virtual currency kiosk" means an electronic terminal that facilitates the exchange of virtual currency for money, bank credit, or other virtual currency, including by:

(A) connecting directly to a separate virtual currency exchange that performs the actual virtual currency transmission; or

(B) drawing upon the virtual currency in the possession of the electronic terminal's operator.

Sec. 161.002. OPERATION OF VIRTUAL CURRENCY KIOSK PROHIBITED. (a) A person commits an offense if the person knowingly:

(1) owns or operates a virtual currency kiosk located

in this state; or

(2) allows another person to operate or install a virtual currency kiosk on property located in this state that is owned, leased, or controlled by the person.

(b) An offense under this section is a state jail felony.

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2027.