

By: Hinojosa, Zaffirini

S.B. No. 1152

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT
2 relating to the making or acceptance of political contributions in
3 a courthouse; providing penalties.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 253.039, Election Code, is amended by
6 amending Subsections (a), (b), and (c) and adding Subsection (h) to
7 read as follows:

8 (a) A person may not knowingly make or authorize a political
9 contribution while in the Capitol or a courthouse to:

- 10 (1) a candidate or officeholder;
11 (2) a political committee; or
12 (3) a person acting on behalf of a candidate,
13 officeholder, or political committee.

14 (b) A candidate, officeholder, or political committee or a
15 person acting on behalf of a candidate, officeholder, or political
16 committee may not knowingly accept a political contribution, and
17 shall refuse a political contribution that is received, in the
18 Capitol or a courthouse.

19 (c) This section does not prohibit contributions made in the
20 Capitol or a courthouse through the United States postal service or
21 a common or contract carrier.

22 (h) In this section, "courthouse" means any building owned
23 or occupied by the state, a county, or a municipality, including a
24 building or office leased to the state, a county, or a municipality,

1 in which a justice or judge sits to conduct court proceedings.

2 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.