

AN ACT

relating to the making or acceptance of political contributions in a courthouse; providing penalties.

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

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

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

(1) a candidate or officeholder;

(2) a political committee; or

(3) a person acting on behalf of a candidate, officeholder, or political committee.

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

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

(h) In this section, "courthouse" means any building owned by the state, a county, or a municipality, or an office or part of a building leased to the state, a county, or a municipality, in which

1 a justice or judge sits to conduct court proceedings.

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

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President of the Senate

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Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1152 passed the Senate on April 16, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0; May 21, 2009, Senate refused to concur in House amendments and requested appointment of Conference Committee; May 23, 2009, House granted request of the Senate; May 30, 2009, Senate adopted Conference Committee Report by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

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Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 1152 passed the House, with amendments, on May 15, 2009, by the following vote: Yeas 144, Nays 0, one present not voting; May 23, 2009, House granted request of the Senate for appointment of Conference Committee; May 28, 2009, House adopted Conference Committee Report by the following vote: Yeas 145, Nays 0, one present not voting.

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Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor