

By: Hinojosa

S.B. No. 1152

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

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 or occupied by the state, a county, or a municipality, including a 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.