

CHAPTER 995

H.B. No. 1989

AN ACT

relating to the offense of intentionally altering or obscuring motor vehicle license plates.

Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. Article 6675b-7, Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

Art. 6675b-7. **WRONG OR UNCLEAN NUMBER PLATE.** No person shall attach to or display on any motor vehicle any number plate or seal assigned to a different motor vehicle or assigned to it under any other motor vehicle law other than by the State Highway Department, or any registration seal other than that assigned for the current year, or a homemade or fictitious number plate or seal. All letters, numbers and other identification marks shall be kept clear and distinct and free from grease or other blurring matter so that they may be plainly seen at all times during daylight. Whoever violates any provision of this article shall be fined not exceeding two hundred dollars, *unless it is shown on the trial of the offense that the person intentionally or knowingly altered or made illegible the numbers, letters, or other identifying marks, in which event the offense is punishable as a Class B misdemeanor.*

SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 1987, and applies only to the punishment of an offense under Article 6675b-7, Revised Statutes, committed on or after that date. An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is punishable by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For purposes of this section, an offense is committed before the effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurs before that date.

SECTION 3. The importance of this legislation and the crowded condition of the calendars in both houses create an emergency and an imperative public necessity that the constitutional rule requiring bills to be read on three several days in each house be suspended, and this rule is hereby suspended.

Passed by the House on May 6, 1987, by a non-record vote. Passed by the Senate on May 29, 1987, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Approved June 19, 1987.

Effective Sept. 1, 1987.