

1-1 By: Dyson, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Flores) H.B. No. 4996
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House May 8, 2025;
1-3 May 8, 2025, read first time and referred to Committee on Criminal
1-4 Justice; May 21, 2025, reported favorably by the following vote:
1-5 Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 21, 2025, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Flores	X			
1-8 Parker	X			
1-9 Hagenbuch	X			
1-10 Hinojosa of Hidalgo	X			
1-11 Huffman			X	
1-12 King	X			
1-13 Miles	X			
1-14				

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to increasing the criminal penalty for the offense of
1-18 refusal to execute the release of a fraudulent lien or claim.

1-19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-20 SECTION 1. Section 32.49(c), Penal Code, is amended to read
1-21 as follows:

1-22 (c) An offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor,
1-23 except that the offense is a felony of the third degree if the owner
1-24 of the real or personal property subject to the fraudulent lien or
1-25 claim is a person the actor knows is a public servant.

1-26 SECTION 2. The change in law made by this Act applies only
1-27 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.
1-28 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is
1-29 governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed,
1-30 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For
1-31 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the
1-32 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred
1-33 before that date.

1-34 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.

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