CHAPTER 128

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<u>S.B. 'No. 821</u>

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1	AN ACT
2	relating to the prosecution of certain criminal offenses involving
3	theft or involving fraud or other deceptive practices.
4	BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:
5	SECTION 1. The heading to Section 31.06, Penal Code, is
6	amended to read as follows:
7	Sec. 31.06. PRESUMPTION FOR THEFT BY CHECK OR SIMILAR SIGHT
8	ORDER.
9	SECTION 2. Subsection (a), Section 31.06, Penal Code, is
10	amended to read as follows:
11	(a) If the actor obtained property or secured performance of
12	service by issuing or passing a check or similar sight order for the
13	payment of money, when the issuer did not have sufficient funds in
14	or on deposit with the bank or other drawee for the payment in full
15	of the check or order as well as all other checks or orders then
16	outstanding, it is prima facie evidence of <u>the issuer's</u> [ <del>his</del> ]
17	intent to deprive the owner of property under Section 31.03 (Theft)
18	including a drawee or third-party holder in due course who
19	negotiated the check or order or to avoid payment for service under
20	Section 31.04 (Theft of Service) (except in the case of a postdated
21	check or order) if:
22	(1) <u>the issuer</u> [ <del>he</del> ] had no account with the bank or
23	other drawee at the time <u>the issuer</u> [ <del>he</del> ] issued the check or <u>sight</u>

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(2) payment was refused by the bank or other drawee for
 lack of funds or insufficient funds, on presentation within 30 days
 after issue, and the issuer failed to pay the holder in full within
 10 days after receiving notice of that refusal.

5 SECTION 3. The heading to Section 32.41, Penal Code, is 6 amended to read as follows:

7 Sec. 32.41. ISSUANCE OF BAD CHECK <u>OR SIMILAR SIGHT ORDER</u>.

8 SECTION 4. Subsection (e), Section 32.41, Penal Code, is 9 amended to read as follows:

10 (e) A person charged with an offense under this section may 11 make restitution for the bad checks <u>or sight orders</u>. Restitution 12 shall be made through the prosecutor's office if collection and 13 processing were initiated through that office. In other cases 14 restitution may be, with the approval of the court in which the 15 offense is filed:

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(1) made through the court; or

17 (2) collected by a law enforcement agency if a peace
18 officer of that agency executes a warrant against the person
19 charged with the offense.

SECTION 5. Subdivision (1), Subsection (a), Section 32.45,
Penal Code, is amended to read as follows:

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(1) "Fiduciary" includes:

(A) a trustee, guardian, administrator,
executor, conservator, and receiver;

(B) an attorney in fact or agent appointed under
 a durable power of attorney as provided by Chapter XII, Texas
 Probate Code;

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1 (C) any other person acting in a fiduciary 2 capacity, but not a commercial bailee unless the commercial bailee 3 is a party in a motor fuel sales agreement with a distributor or 4 supplier, as those terms are defined by Section <u>162.001</u> [<del>153.001</del>], 5 Tax Code; and

6 (D) an officer, manager, employee, or agent 7 carrying on fiduciary functions on behalf of a fiduciary.

8 SECTION 6. Subsection (a), Section 3.507, Business & 9 Commerce Code, is amended to read as follows:

10 (a) On return of a check or similar sight order, as defined 11 by Section 1.07, Penal Code, to the holder following dishonor of the 12 check or sight order by a payor and prior to the check or sight order 13 being referred for prosecution, the holder, the holder's assignee, 14 agent, or representative, or any other person retained by the holder to seek collection of the dishonored check or sight order may 15 16 charge the drawer or indorser of the check or sight order the cost 17 of delivery notification by registered or certified mail with 18 return receipt requested under Section 31.06 or Section 32.41, 19 Penal Code, as applicable.

20 SECTION 7. The heading to Article 102.007, Code of Criminal 21 Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

Art. 102.007. FEE FOR COLLECTING AND PROCESSING <u>CHECK OR</u>
 <u>SIMILAR</u> SIGHT ORDER.

24 SECTION 8. Subsections (a) and (e), Article 102.007, Code 25 of Criminal Procedure, are amended to read as follows:

(a) A county attorney, district attorney, or criminal
 27 district attorney may collect a fee if <u>the attorney's</u> [his] office

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collects and processes a check or similar sight order, as defined by
 <u>Section 1.07, Penal Code</u>, if the check or similar sight order:

3 (1) has been issued or passed in a manner that makes4 the issuance or passing an offense under:

5 (A) Section 31.03, Penal Code;
6 (B) Section 31.04, Penal Code; or
7 ' (C) Section 32.41, Penal Code; or
8 (2) has been forged, as defined by Section 32.21,

9 Penal Code.

addition to the collection 10 (e) In fee specified in 11 Subsection (c) [of this article], the county attorney, district 12 attorney, or criminal district attorney may collect the fee 13 authorized by Section 3.506, Business & Commerce Code, for the 14 benefit of the holder of a check or similar sight order or the 15 holder's [its] assignee, agent, representative, or any other person 16 retained by the holder to seek collection of the check or order.

SECTION 9. Article 102.0071, Code of Criminal Procedure, isamended to read as follows:

19 Art. 102.0071. JUSTICE COURT DISHONORED CHECK OR SIMILAR 20 SIGHT ORDER. On conviction in justice court of an offense under 21 Section 32.41, Penal Code, or an offense under Section 31.03 or 31.04, Penal Code, in which it is shown that the defendant committed 22 the offense by issuing or passing a check or similar sight order, as 23 defined by Section 1.07, Penal Code, that was subsequently 24 25 dishonored, the court may collect from the defendant and pay to the holder of the check or order the fee permitted by Section 3.506, 26 Business & Commerce Code. 27

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SECTION 10. Sections 102.101 and 102.102, Government Code,
 are amended to read as follows:

3 Sec. 102.101. ADDITIONAL COURT COSTS ON CONVICTION IN 4 JUSTICE COURT: CODE OF CRIMINAL PROCEDURE. A clerk of a justice 5 court shall collect fees and costs under the Code of Criminal 6 Procedure on conviction of a defendant as follows:

7 (1) a jury fee (Art. 102.004, Code of Criminal 8 Procedure)...\$3;

9 (2) a fee for withdrawing request for jury less than 24 10 hours before time of trial (Art. 102.004, Code of Criminal 11 Procedure)...\$3;

(3) a jury fee for two or more defendants tried jointly
(Art. 102.004, Code of Criminal Procedure) . . . one jury fee of \$3;
(4) a security fee on a misdemeanor offense (Art.
102.017, Code of Criminal Procedure) . . . \$4;

16 (5) a fee for technology fund on a misdemeanor offense
17 (Art. 102.0173, Code of Criminal Procedure) . . . \$4;

(6) a juvenile case manager fee (Art. 102.0174, Code
of Criminal Procedure) . . . not to exceed \$5 if the court employs a
juvenile case manager;

(7) a fee on conviction of certain offenses involving issuing or passing a subsequently dishonored check <u>or similar sight</u> <u>order</u> (Art. 102.0071, Code of Criminal Procedure) . . . not to exceed \$30;

(8) a court cost on conviction of a Class C misdemeanor
in a county with a population of 3.3 million or more, if authorized
by the county commissioners court (Art. 102.009, Code of Criminal

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1 Procedure) . . . not to exceed \$7; and

2 (9) a civil justice fee (Art. 102.022, Code of
3 Criminal Procedure) . . . \$0.10.

Sec. 102.102. ADDITIONAL COURT COSTS ON CONVICTION IN JUSTICE COURT: BUSINESS & COMMERCE CODE. The clerk of a justice court shall collect from a defendant a court cost not to exceed \$30 under Section 3.506, Business & Commerce Code, on conviction of certain offenses involving issuing or passing a subsequently dishonored check <u>or similar sight order</u>.

SECTION 11. The heading to Section 162.409, Tax Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 162.409. ISSUANCE OF BAD CHECK <u>OR SIMILAR SIGHT ORDER</u> TO LICENSED DISTRIBUTOR, LICENSED SUPPLIER, OR PERMISSIVE SUPPLIER.

15 SECTION 12. Subsections (a) and (d), Section 162.409, Tax 16 Code, are amended to read as follows:

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(a) A person commits an offense if:

(1) the person issues or passes a check or similar sight order, as defined by Section 1.07, Penal Code, for the payment of money knowing that the issuer does not have sufficient funds in or on deposit with the bank or other drawee for the payment in full of the check or order as well as all other checks or orders outstanding at the time of issuance;

(2) the payee on the check or order is a licenseddistributor, licensed supplier, or permissive supplier; and

(3) the payment is for an obligation or debt thatincludes a tax under this chapter to be collected by the licensed

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1 distributor, licensed supplier, or permissive supplier.

(d) A person who makes payment on an obligation or debt that
includes a tax under this chapter and pays with an insufficient
funds check or similar sight order, as defined by Section 1.07,
<u>Penal Code</u>, issued to a licensed distributor, licensed supplier, or
permissive supplier may be held liable for a penalty equal to the
total amount of tax not paid to the licensed distributor, licensed
supplier, or permissive supplier.

9 SECTION 13. The change in law made by this Act applies only 10 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act. 11 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is 12 governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed, and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. 13 For purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the 14 15 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred 16 before that date.

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SECTION 14. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.

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peaker of the House

<u>I hereby certify</u> that S.B. No. 821 passed the Senate on April 4, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

<u>Secretary</u> he

<u>I hereby certify</u> that S.B. No. 821 passed the House on May 8, 2013, by the following vote: Yeas 147, Nays 0, two present not voting.

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Approved:

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE
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