

By: Bill Cummings

DR-1

Committee: Criminal Justice

RESOLUTION  
Increase Penalties for Identity Theft

A RESOLUTION TO discourage “ Identity Theft” of Texans.

WHEREAS, “Identity theft” has increased to 750,000 cases annually in USA; and

WHEREAS, “Amounts of money stolen are incredible; this crime is a better take and the punishment for it is generally less” [*New York Times* June 2, 2002]; and

WHEREAS, As the population ages, seniors become more prosperous, and the technology [internet] advances, the opportunities are greater for theft; and

WHEREAS, Financial exploitation cases nationally has grown 61.4 percent since 1994 [*Silver Communications – Silver Springs MD 2002*]; and

WHEREAS, White collar corruption increases when there is a downturn in the USA economy; now, therefore, be it

*RESOLVED*, That the 78<sup>th</sup> Legislative Session increase the penalties for the number one fraud complaint -“ Identity Theft” - to deter white collar criminals from taking advantage of all Texans, especially senior Texans.

PASSED AND APPROVED on September 17, 2002 by the Criminal Justice Committee.

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William Zermeno, Vice Chairman

PASSED AND APPROVED on September 19, 2002, by the Texas Silver-Haired Legislature.

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Chris Kyker, Speaker

ATTEST:

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Jean McCloud, Secretary