

Join Us in Saying **No to Bandit Signs**

Texas Senate Bill 190 / House Bill 1863 increases the current civil penalty for certain signs placed on the right-of-way of a public road.



What are bandit signs?

Bandit signs are illegal advertisements that clutter neighborhoods and dangerously block public and pedestrian spaces.

They are highly predatory with offers for fast cash, jobs, or cheap services and they intentionally target vulnerable communities.

What is the Bandit Bill (SB190 / HB1863)?

-  It maintains the current fine of \$1,000 for a 1st offense
-  It adds \$2,500 for a 2nd offense & \$5,000 for subsequent offenses
-  It allows fines for businesses who use bandit signs without requiring they are caught in the act of placing the sign
-  Does not apply to signs erected on private property



What you can do to **STOP** bandit signs!



Write a letter of support for the Bandit Bill to Senator Borris Miles at borris.miles@senate.texas.gov, Council Member Martha Castex-Tatum at districtk@houstontx.gov, or Representative Shawn Thierry at Shawn.Thierry@house.texas.gov.



Report violations within the City of Houston limits by calling 3-1-1 or using the Houston 3-1-1 app.



Become a Sign Ranger through the Harris County Attorney's Office. They train and authorize citizens to remove the signs.

Why This Legislation is Important

Texas Senate Bill 190 / House Bill 1863 increases the current civil penalty for certain signs placed on the right-of-way of a public road. It is more important than ever we protect our community from the illegal use of bandit signs. Here's why!

Bandit signs threaten our communities



Bandit signs **pollute our public spaces** and **increase clean-up costs** for the city, county, and taxpayers



Offenders use these illegal signs to **prey on vulnerable citizens** with promises of quick, easy money



Bandit signs **overcrowd public spaces** and are a dangerous distraction for drivers and pedestrians



Bandit signs dangerously **clutter crosswalks** and **block street signs** affecting pedestrian safety

THE COST TO TAXPAYERS

Many offenders consider current fines the cost of doing business even with some fines totaling more than \$300,000 a year. Meanwhile, the costs to remove and clean up these spaces continues to rise. **Support of SB190 / HB1863 increases the current fines to help deter longtime and repeat offenders.**



25

CITATIONS PER MONTH



3,174

SIGNS CONFISCATED PER MONTH



87

COMPLAINTS PER MONTH

Show your support of SB190 / HB1863



Join leaders in the fight against blight. Send a letter of support for Senate Bill 190 and House Bill 1863 to **Senator Borris Miles** at borris.miles@senate.texas.gov, **Council Member Martha Castex-Tatum** at districtk@houstontx.gov, or **Representative Shawn Thierry** at thierry@house.texas.gov.