

**SUBJECT:** Increasing the criminal penalty for impairing a motor fuel pump

**COMMITTEE:** Criminal Jurisprudence — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 7 ayes — Moody, Cook, Bhojani, Bowers, Darby, Harrison, Schatzline  
0 nays  
1 absent — Leach  
1 present not voting — C. Morales

**SENATE VOTE:** On final passage (March 28) — 30 - 0

**WITNESSES:** For — Steve Fawcett, Dallas County DA’s Office (*Registered, but did not testify*); Casey Hall, 97th District Attorney; Judy Price, 97th District Attorney's Office; Anne ORyan, AAA Texas; June Deadrick, CenterPoint Energy; Eric Carcerano, Chambers County District Attorney’s Office; M Paige Williams, Dallas County Criminal District Attorney John Creuzot; James Parnell, Dallas Police Association; David Batton, Harris County Deputies Organization FOP 39; Ray Hunt, Houston Police Officers’ Union; James Smith, San Antonio Police Department; Carlos Ortiz, San Antonio Police Officers Association; John Wilkerson, Texas Municipal Police Association)  
  
Against — None

**BACKGROUND:** Concerns have been raised that organized criminal groups are disrupting fuel dispenser pulsers, which regulate the fuel flow in gas pumps, in order to steal fuel.

**DIGEST:** SB 467 would establish that an offense of criminal mischief was a third-degree felony (two to 10 years in prison and an optional fine of up to \$10,000) if the actor caused wholly or partly impairment or disruption to a retail motor fuel pump, regardless of the amount of pecuniary loss.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2023, and would apply only to an offense committed on or after the effective date.