

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

H.B. 2516  
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Criminal Justice  
5-17-97  
Engrossed

### **DIGEST**

Currently, subsections of the disorderly conduct statute, Section 42.01, Penal Code, prohibit a person from looking into dwellings, hotels and similar establishments for a lewd or unlawful purpose. However, these provisions do not apply to other locations such as schools, gymnasiums, and health clubs. H.B. 2516 would render it unlawful for a person to look into a public restroom, shower stall or changing or dressing room for a lewd and unlawful purpose.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, H.B. 2516 outlines provisions regarding the prosecution and punishment of the offense of disorderly conduct.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

### **SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS**

SECTION 1. Amends Section 42.01(a) and (d), Penal Code, to provide that a person commits an offense if he intentionally or knowingly, among other actions, looks into an area such as a restroom or shower stall or a changing or dressing room that is designed to provide privacy to a person using the area for an unlawful purpose while on the premises of a public place. Provides that an offense under this section is a Class C or B misdemeanor, except that an offense regarding looking into an area for a lewd or unlawful purpose is a Class A misdemeanor.

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 1997.

SECTION 4. Emergency clause.