

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 548
By: Shapiro
Criminal Justice
3-4-97
As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, the unlawful transfer of certain weapons to children younger than 18 years of age is a Class A misdemeanor. This legislation makes the offense a third degree felony if the weapon that is the subject of the offense is a handgun, in an attempt to deter juvenile crime.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 548 establishes the punishment for the offense of unlawfully transferring a handgun to a child younger than 18 years of age.

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 46.06(d), Penal Code, to provide that an offense under this section is a Class A misdemeanor, except that an offense under Subsection (a)(2), the offense of intentionally or knowingly selling, renting, leasing, or giving or offering to rent, lease, or give a handgun to any child younger than 18 years of age, is a third degree felony.

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 1997.

SECTION 4. Emergency clause.