

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 2784
By: Carter (Staples)
Criminal Justice
5/3/2001
Engrossed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Current law requires the Department of Public Safety (department) to maintain statistics regarding responses by law enforcement agencies to incidents in which a person licensed to carry a concealed handgun is convicted of an offense related to the unlawful carrying of a concealed handgun. Statistics on responses to certain serious offenses committed by persons licensed to carry concealed handguns might provide important information on the influence of concealed handguns on the commission of certain serious crimes. H.B. 2784 authorizes, rather than requires, the department to maintain statistics related to responses by law enforcement agencies on its website and stipulates that such authority is granted only in incidents in which persons licensed to carry concealed handguns are convicted of certain serious offenses.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 411.047, Government Code, to authorize, rather than require, the Department of Public Safety (department) to maintain statistics on its website related to responses by law enforcement agencies to incidents in which a person licensed to carry a handgun under Subchapter H is convicted of an offense only if the offense is prohibited under Subchapter H or under Title 5 (Offenses Against the Person), Chapter 29 (Robbery), Chapter 46 (Weapons), or Section 30.02 (Burglary), rather than 46.035, Penal Code. Requires such statistics to be drawn and reported annually from the department computerized criminal history file on persons 21 years of age and older and to be compared in numerical and graphical format to all like offenses committed in the state for the reporting period as a percentage of the total of such reported offenses.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2001.