

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
77R2377 KEL-D

S.B. 139  
By: Carona  
Criminal Justice  
01/19/2001  
As Filed

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Currently, certain forms of communication, including those by electronic or mechanical means, are not covered under Texas statutes pertaining to harassment. As proposed, S.B. 139 adds electronic and mechanical means of communication to the forms regulated for protection from the commission of a harassment offense.

### **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 42.07(a), Penal Code, to provide that a person commits an offense if, with the intent to harass, annoy, alarm, abuse, torment, or embarrass another, the person initiates communication or causes the initiation of communication by mail or any other written form of communication or by electronic or mechanical means, including the use of a telephone or telegraph.

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2001.