ARCH NIZATION bill digest 5/22/2009 SB 423 Carona (Moody, et al.)

SUBJECT: Conditions of probation with regard to association with gang members

COMMITTEE: Criminal Jurisprudence — favorable, without amendment

VOTE: 8 ayes — Gallego, Christian, Fletcher, Miklos, Moody, Riddle, Vaught,

Vo

0 nays

3 absent — Hodge, Kent, Pierson

SENATE VOTE: On final passage, April 23 — 30-0, on Local and Uncontested Calendar

WITNESSES: For — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Katrina Daniels, Bexar County

District Attorney's Office: Rebecca Forest, Immigration Reform Coalition

of Texas; MerryLynn Gerstenschlager, Texas Eagle Forum; Maria Martinez, Brent Munhofen, Immigration Reform Coalition of Texas)

Against — None

BACKGROUND: Code of Criminal Procedure, art. 42.12 allows a judge to suspend the

imposition of a sentence and place a defendant on probation after a defendant pleads guilty or no contest to certain offenses. A judge may impose any reasonable condition of probation designed to protect or restore the community or the victim, or punish, rehabilitate, or reform the

defendant, and may modify those conditions at any period during

supervision.

DIGEST: SB 423 would amend Code of Criminal Procedure, art. 42.12 by adding

that a defendant would be required to avoid any person, other than a family member of the defendant, who was an active member of a criminal street gang to the list of conditions of probation that could be ordered by a

judge.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2009.