

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 126
By: Danburg (Patterson)
Criminal Justice
5-17-97
Engrossed

DIGEST

In large urban cities, municipal and county jails often release inmates from their custody at times when services, such as bus transportation, may be unavailable. Women, the sick, and the mentally ill who are released at night and end up on the streets are often victimized. This bill will provide regulations regarding the time of the day at which a defendant confined on conviction is discharged from confinement.

PURPOSE

As proposed, H.B. 126 provides regulations regarding the time of the day at which a defendant confined on conviction of a misdemeanor is discharged from the sentence of confinement.

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 Article 43.13, Code of Criminal Procedure, to provide that a defendant convicted of a misdemeanor and sentenced to a term of confinement of more than 30 days discharges the defendant's sentence at any time between the hours of 6 a.m. and 7 p.m. on the day of discharge.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1997.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.