BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center 76R8018 GWK-D S.B. 1281 By: Wentworth Criminal Justice 4/19/1999 As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, Texas law requires the name, age, and address of paroled sexual offenders to be published in the local paper of the area where the parolee resides upon release. No identification is offered other than age and gender. This bill would require a photograph, that will offer positive identification of a paroled sex offender, to be published in addition to information currently required.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 1281 requires a local law enforcement authority to publish photographs of certain sex offenders in a newspaper.

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 Chapter 62, Code of Criminal Procedure, as added by Chapter 668, Acts of the 75th Legislature, Regular Session, 1997, by adding Article 62.041, as follows:

Art. 62.041. SPECIAL PUBLICATION RULES RELATING TO PAROLEES AND PERSONS RELEASED ON MANDATORY SUPERVISION. Requires a local law enforcement authority to publish a notice in a manner prescribed by Article 62.03(e) or 62.04(f) including information required by Articles 62.03(f) and 62.04(g), if it is determined that a person subject to registration is a parolee or person released to mandatory supervision, and to include the person's photograph in the notice. Provides that this section applies to a person subject to registration who is a parolee or person released to mandatory supervision and has not served a sentence for an offense under Section 25.02, Penal Code. Requires the local law enforcement authority to publish notice as required by Subsection (a) regardless of the age of the victim of the person's offense.

SECTION 2. Amends Article 62.08, Code of Criminal Procedure, by adding Subsection (f), to provide that a photograph of a parolee or person released to mandatory supervision who is described by Article 62.041 is public information.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 1999. Makes application of this Act prospective.