

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R1701 JD-D

S.B. 578
By: Armbrister
Criminal Justice
3/29/1999
As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, under Texas law the term “final conviction” frequently causes confusion for clerks in reporting convictions to the Texas Department of Public Safety for the purpose of suspending a defendant’s driver’s license. This bill would redefine “final conviction” to clarify the treatment of deferred adjudication and court ordered deferral of final disposition of a case.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 578 sets forth criteria for a final conviction to be reported to the Texas Department of Public Safety for suspension of the defendants’ driver’s licenses.

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 Section 521.347(c), Transportation Code, to redefine “conviction” to mean a conviction is not a final conviction if the defendant receives deferred adjudication, or the court defers final disposition, unless the court subsequently proceeds with an adjudication of guilt and imposes a sentence on the defendant.

SECTION 2. Emergency clause.
Effective date: upon passage.