

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

C.S.H.B. 3539  
By: Landgraf  
Criminal Jurisprudence  
Committee Report (Substituted)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

Interested parties contend that the penalty for assault against a pregnant woman is too lenient given the severity of the crime. C.S.H.B. 3539 seeks to address this issue by enhancing the penalty for assault committed against a person the actor knows or should have known is pregnant at the time of the offense.

### **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill expressly does one or more of the following: creates a criminal offense, increases the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or changes the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision.

### **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**

It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution.

### **ANALYSIS**

C.S.H.B. 3539 amends the Penal Code to enhance the penalty for assault in which the actor intentionally, knowingly, or recklessly causes bodily injury to another from a Class A misdemeanor to a third degree felony if the offense is committed against a person the actor knows or should have known is pregnant at the time of the offense.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2017.

### **COMPARISON OF ORIGINAL AND SUBSTITUTE**

C.S.H.B. 3539 differs from the original only by amending the caption.