

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 1561
By: Wentworth
Jurisprudence
4-29-97
As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, all depositions conducted in this state must be recorded and/or transcribed by a certified shorthand reporter. Not even a court can authorize the taking of a non-stenographic recording. There are situations, especially in the representation of low income/pro bono/legal aid litigants, when conducting discovery by utilizing stenographic depositions is cost prohibitive and effectively prevents these litigants from having their "full" day in court. This bill will repeal Section 52.021(f), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, which requires depositions to be recorded by a certified shorthand reporter.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 1561 repeals Section 52.021(f), Civil Practice and Remedies Code, which requires depositions to be recorded by a certified shorthand reporter.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Repealer: Section 52.021(f), Government Code (Requiring depositions to be recorded by a certified shorthand reporter).

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1997.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.