BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 48 By: Shapiro Criminal Justice 3-2-97 As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, Texas law regarding the confidentiality of identifying information regarding sex offense victims, includes victims of sexual assault and aggravated sexual assault, but does not include victims of other sex crimes. S.B. 48 would include victims of child pornography, pedophilia, and other sex crimes in its definition of "victims," thereby giving these persons the same protections in regards to confidentiality under the law as victims of sexual assault and aggravated sexual assault.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 48 redefines "victim" as a person who was the subject of an offense the commission of which leads to a reportable conviction or adjudication under Article 6252 13c.1, V.T.C.S.

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 57.01(4), Code of Criminal Procedure, to redefine "victim" as a person who was the subject of an offense the commission of which leads to a reportable conviction or adjudication under Article 6252-13c.1, V.T.C.S., rather than under Section 22.011 or Section 22.021, Penal Code.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1997.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.