

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R9315 PEP-D

S.B. 1275
By: Wentworth
Criminal Justice
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As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, Texas law stipulates a seven year statute of limitations for the offense of sexual assault. In some cases, law enforcement officials have identified rape suspects, but have not been able to bring a case to a grand jury because of lack of evidence. However, new developments in the use of DNA testing allow for law enforcement officials to build a case long after a crime was committed. S.B. 1275 would establish conditions regarding the statute of limitations for purposes of prosecuting certain felony sex offenses.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 1275 establishes conditions regarding the statute of limitations for purposes of prosecuting certain felony sex offenses.

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 12.01, Code of Criminal Procedure, to include in felony indictments authorized to be presented within certain limits, 15 years from the date of the commission of the offense of sexual assault, except as provided in Subdivision (6). Makes conforming and nonsubstantive changes.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1999.
Makes application of this Act prospective.