

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
76R1616 DWS-E

S.B. 60  
By: Moncrief  
State Affairs  
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As Filed

### **DIGEST**

Currently, Texas law requires children to wear a safety belt if they are riding in the front seat of a passenger car. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration seatbelts are 40%-50% effective in preventing fatalities and reducing injuries. Over half of those killed in passenger cars in Texas in 1996 were not wearing seatbelts. S.B. 60 would require certain persons to wear a safety belt when riding in any part of a passenger car.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, S.B. 60 requires persons to wear safety belts while operating certain motor vehicles.

### **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 Sections 545.413(a), (b) and (h), Transportation Code, to provide that a person commits an offense if the person is riding in a passenger car, rather than the front seat, without a seat belt and is at least 15 years of age. Redefines "passenger car." Defines "safety belt." Makes conforming changes.

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

SECTION 4. Emergency clause.