

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center  
76R1903 PEP-D

S.B. 665  
By: West  
Criminal Justice  
4/13/1999  
As Filed

### **DIGEST**

Currently, a person sentenced to a prison term can be more severely punished when a deadly weapon finding is made on the person's judgment by making him ineligible for parole until the person has completed one-half of their prison sentence. However, the definition has been so broadly interpreted by the courts that deadly weapon findings are sought, and often made, according to a prosecutor's wishes. S.B. 665 would redefine "deadly weapon" for purposes of the prosecution of certain offenses.

### **PURPOSE**

As proposed, S.B. 665 redefines "deadly weapon" for purposes of the prosecution of certain 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 Section 1.07(17), Penal Code, to redefine "deadly weapon."

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 1999.

SECTION 4. Emergency clause.