

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
77R7889 JMG-D

H.B. 2610
By: Bonnen (Brown)
Jurisprudence
4/26/2001
Engrossed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, the language used within the Penal Code pertaining to criminal penalties for nonsupport of a child is not gender-neutral and may be interpreted as being biased against a father. As proposed, H.B. 2610 replaces masculine terminology in certain provisions relating to child support with gender-neutral terminology.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Sections 25.05(a) and (d), Penal Code, to change a reference from “his” to “individual.” Provides that it is an affirmative defense to prosecution under this section that the actor could not provide support for the actor’s, rather than his, child.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2001.