

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
85R2085 ADM-D

S.B. 263
By: Perry
State Affairs
3/14/2017
As Filed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Currently, a concealed handgun license applicant must demonstrate handgun proficiency with a minimum .32 caliber handgun to obtain the license. Whether or not a person carries or owns a smaller caliber firearm, all persons are required to complete the proficiency test with a minimum of .32 caliber firearm. Interested parties note that handguns of such a caliber may be uncomfortable for those who regularly operate a lesser caliber handgun or are physically unable to comfortably handle a large caliber handgun. These parties assert that Texans should not be prevented from obtaining a concealed handgun license because of injuries, abilities, or preferences of caliber. S.B. 263 addresses this concern by removing the caliber requirement.

As proposed, S.B. 263 amends current law relating to the handgun proficiency required to obtain or renew a license to carry a handgun.

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 Section 411.188(a), Government Code, to delete existing text limiting an applicant, to demonstrate the degree of proficiency that is required to effectively operate a handgun, to a handgun of .32 caliber or above.

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2017.