SB 243 B STAFF MEASURE SUMMARY

Senate Committee On Rules

Carrier: Sen. Bonham

Minority Report

Action Date:	05/14/25
Action:	Do pass with different amendments to the A-Eng bill. (Printed B-Eng.) Minority
Fiscal:	Fiscal impact issued
Revenue:	Has minimal revenue impact
Report Signers:	Sen. Bonham, Sen. Thatcher
Prepared By:	Gillian Fischer
Meeting Dates:	5/12, 5/14

WHAT THE MEASURE DOES:

The measure repeals statutory changes made by Senate Bill 554 (2021), which includes statutes relating to the possession of firearms in certain public buildings and airports; requirements for securing, storing, and transferring firearms; and requirements for reporting the theft or loss of a firearm, supervision of minors with firearms, and gun dealer notice requirements. The measure also makes it unlawful for a person to knowingly possess a firearm if the person is charged with a disqualifying drug offense and is subject to a court order prohibiting the person from possessing firearms as described in the measure. It further establishes requirements for the relinquishment or transfer of a firearm possessed by a person subject to an order prohibiting firearm possession for a disqualifying drug offense and the findings a court must make before rescinding said order. The measure also reduces the fees for a concealed handgun license paid to the sheriff for initial issuance and renewals.

ISSUES DISCUSSED:

- Definition of terms in measure including rapid fire activator and official meetings
- Language removed by amendments
- Unfunded mandates
- Predictability regarding where firearms are restricted or prohibited
- Local control over policies regarding possession of firearms in certain buildings
- Enforcement of prohibitions created by measure and options for disposing of already owned rapid fire activators
- Suicide prevention and mandatory holds

EFFECT OF AMENDMENT:

The amendment replaces the measure.

BACKGROUND:

Enacted in 2021, Senate Bill 554 expanded the authority of a city, county, metropolitan service district, or port operating a commercial airport to prohibit the possession of firearms within public buildings to individuals who were exempt from the prohibition due to holding a concealed handgun license. It also amended statutes relating to the possession of firearms in certain public buildings and airports, provided requirements for securing, storing, and transferring firearms, and established new rules related to reporting the theft or loss of a firearm, supervision of minors with firearms, and gun dealer notice requirements.