

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

Senate Research Center

S.B. 408  
By: Deuell  
Criminal Justice  
8-5-2003  
Enrolled

### **DIGEST AND PURPOSE**

Under current law, making a terroristic threat to any person is a Class B misdemeanor offense. Increasing the penalty for a terroristic threat could deter an individual from engaging in that act. S.B. 408 provides that a terroristic threat that places any person in fear of imminent serious bodily injury is a Class A misdemeanor, rather than a Class B misdemeanor, if it is committed against the person's family or household or against a public servant.

### **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 22.07, Penal Code, by amending Subsection (b) and adding Subsection (c), as follows:

(b) Provides that an offense under Subdivision (1) or (2) of Subsection (a) (relating to terroristic threat) is a class B misdemeanor, except that an offense under Subdivision (2) of Subsection (a) is a Class A misdemeanor if the offense is committed against a member of the person's family or household or otherwise constitutes family violence or if the offense is committed against a public servant.

(c) Defines "family," "family violence," and "household."

SECTION 2. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 3. Effective date: September 1, 2003.