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| BILL ANALYSIS |

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| S.B. 162 |
| By: Blanco |
| Criminal Jurisprudence |
| Committee Report (Unamended) |

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| **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**  In the interest of public safety, state law contains various provisions which limit the ability of certain individuals to obtain a firearm. While many of these provisions enforce to whom the seller of a firearm may legally provide a firearm, it has been suggested that stronger criminal penalties are needed to deter unfit individuals from seeking to acquire a firearm in the first place. S.B. 162 seeks to address this issue by creating a state jail felony offense for a person prohibited from possessing a firearm who makes false statements on certain forms relating to firearms. |
| **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill expressly does one or more of the following: creates a criminal offense, increases the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or changes the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision. |
| **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution. |
| **ANALYSIS**  S.B. 162 amends the Penal Code to create a state jail felony offense for a person prohibited from possessing a firearm under state or federal law who knowingly makes a material false statement on a form that is:   * required by state or federal law for the purchase, sale, or other transfer of a firearm; and * submitted to a licensed firearms dealer, as defined by federal law. |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE**  September 1, 2021. |