

By: Birdwell

S.B. No. 598

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT  
2 relating to enhancing the punishment for certain conduct  
3 constituting the criminal offense of aggravated assault.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as the Todd-Hogland Act.

6 SECTION 2. Section 22.02(b), Penal Code, is amended to read  
7 as follows:

8 (b) An offense under this section is a felony of the second  
9 degree, except that the offense is a felony of the first degree if:

10 (1) the actor uses a deadly weapon during the  
11 commission of the assault and causes:

12 (A) serious bodily injury to a person whose  
13 relationship to or association with the defendant is described by  
14 Section 71.0021(b), 71.003, or 71.005, Family Code; or

15 (B) a traumatic brain or spine injury to another  
16 that results in a persistent vegetative state or irreversible  
17 paralysis;

18 (2) regardless of whether the offense is committed  
19 under Subsection (a)(1) or (a)(2), the offense is committed:

20 (A) by a public servant acting under color of the  
21 servant's office or employment;

22 (B) against a person the actor knows is a public  
23 servant while the public servant is lawfully discharging an  
24 official duty, or in retaliation or on account of an exercise of

1 official power or performance of an official duty as a public  
2 servant;

3 (C) in retaliation against or on account of the  
4 service of another as a witness, prospective witness, informant, or  
5 person who has reported the occurrence of a crime;

6 (D) against a person the actor knows is a process  
7 server while the person is performing a duty as a process server; or

8 (E) against a person the actor knows is a  
9 security officer while the officer is performing a duty as a  
10 security officer; or

11 (3) the actor is in a motor vehicle, as defined by  
12 Section 501.002, Transportation Code, and:

13 (A) knowingly discharges a firearm at or in the  
14 direction of a habitation, building, or vehicle;

15 (B) is reckless as to whether the habitation,  
16 building, or vehicle is occupied; and

17 (C) in discharging the firearm, causes serious  
18 bodily injury to any person.

19 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only  
20 to an offense committed on or after the effective date of this Act.  
21 An offense committed before the effective date of this Act is  
22 governed by the law in effect on the date the offense was committed,  
23 and the former law is continued in effect for that purpose. For  
24 purposes of this section, an offense was committed before the  
25 effective date of this Act if any element of the offense occurred  
26 before that date.

27 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.