DIGEST

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Wooton HB No. 264

Abstract: Creates the crime of the unlawful production, manufacturing, distribution, or possession of unauthorized peace officer badges.

Proposed law provides that it shall be unlawful for any person to knowingly or intentionally produce, manufacture, distribute, or possess unauthorized peace officer badges.

Proposed law provides penalties for possession of an unauthorized peace officer badge including a fine of not more than $50, imprisonment for not more than 10 days, or both.

Proposed law provides the following penalties for distributing, manufacturing, or producing an unauthorized peace officer badge:

(1) For a first conviction - a fine of not more than $200, imprisonment for not more than 90 days, or both.

(2) For a second or subsequent conviction - a fine of not more than $1,000, imprisonment for not more than six months, or both.

Provides that proposed law shall not be construed to limit the production, manufacturing, distribution, or possession of a peace officer badge with the designation "police", "marshal", "sheriff", "law enforcement", "warden", or any other designation which does not designate a specific law enforcement agency by name or jurisdiction and which is intended for novelty purposes.

Provides that proposed law shall not be construed as granting the authority to any officer not defined as a "peace officer" pursuant to present law to make arrests, perform search and seizures, execute criminal warrants, prevent and detect crime, and enforce the laws of this state.

(Adds R.S. 14:112.4)

Summary of Amendments Adopted by House

Committee Amendments Proposed by House Committee on Administration of Criminal Justice to the original bill.

1. Added exception for novelty badges which do not designate a specific law

enforcement agency by name or jurisdiction.

2. Added attorney general investigators, district attorney investigators, and inspector general investigators to the definition of "peace officer".

House Floor Amendments to the engrossed bill.

1. Added provision that proposed law does not grant authority to make arrests, perform search and seizures, execute criminal warrants, prevent and detect crime, and enforce law.