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## OLR Bill Analysis

### sHB 6491 (as amended by House "A")\*

#### ***AN ACT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC DEFENSE WEAPONS.***

#### **SUMMARY**

This bill allows individuals age 21 and older to carry an electronic defense weapon if they possess a valid firearm credential (i.e., an eligibility certificate or permit to carry or sell handguns or long guns or an ammunition certificate). Under current law, carrying electronic defense weapons is generally a (1) class D felony if carried in a motor vehicle (punishable by up to five years' imprisonment, up to a \$5,000 fine, or both) and (2) class E felony if carried on a person (punishable by up to three years' imprisonment, up to a \$3,500 fine, or both). The bill additionally makes it a class D felony to sell or transfer these weapons to anyone who is younger than age 21 or does not possess a valid firearm credential.

Under current law, "electronic defense weapon" means a weapon that, by electronic impulse or current, can temporarily immobilize a person but is incapable of inflicting death or serious physical injury (including a stun gun or other conductive energy device). The bill expands the definition by eliminating the requirement that the weapon be incapable of inflicting death or serious physical injury.

\*House Amendment "A" changes the effective date from July 1, 2022, to July 1, 2021.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2021

#### **COMMITTEE ACTION**

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 38 Nay 0 (04/06/2021)