

**Bill Summary**  
2<sup>nd</sup> Session of the 57<sup>th</sup> Legislature

<b>Bill No.:</b>	<b>HB 3277</b>
<b>Version:</b>	<b>ENGR</b>
<b>Request No.:</b>	
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**Bill Analysis**

HB 3277 authorizes law enforcement to retain seized property that is not connected to a criminal investigation if the owner is not lawfully permitted to retain the property. The measure also modifies the period by which a hearing must be heard after notice is given from 20 days to 15 days and requires the proof of service or publication to be filed with the court clerk before the hearing. The measure also clarifies that property may be returned to the person who last possessed the item after said person signs an affidavit affirming their ownership of the property. If the property at issue is a firearm or other weapon, the court may order the property destroyed if the court determines that the owner is mentally or emotionally unstable or disturbed or cannot legally possess the firearm or other weapon. Property must be returned to the owner within 20 days of the issuance of any order.