Bill Summary 1st Session of the 57th Legislature

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Bill Analysis

SB 991 provides definitions of criminal prosecution and immune or immunity as it relates to a finding that a person used justifiable force. The measure states that a person who uses defensive force, including deadly force, is immune from criminal prosecution and civil action unless the force is deemed to be unlawful. Prior to a trial, the court is required to conduct a hearing determine whether the use of force was justified upon a motion of the defendant. The prosecution must prove beyond reasonable doubt that the claims are invalid to move to a trial. If the court determines the use of force was justified, the court will dismiss the case and grant the defendant immunity.

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