

By: Talarico, White, Israel, Bucy, Patterson,
et al.

H.B. No. 54

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to accompanying and filming peace officers of state and
3 local law enforcement agencies for producing reality television
4 programs.

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

6 SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as Javier Ambler's Law.

7 SECTION 2. Chapter 614, Government Code, is amended by
8 adding Subchapter M to read as follows:

9 SUBCHAPTER M. ACCOMPANYING OR FILMING OF PEACE OFFICERS

10 Sec. 614.231. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

11 (1) "Law enforcement agency" means an agency of this
12 state or a political subdivision of this state that employs peace
13 officers other than game wardens.

14 (2) "Reality television program" means a nonfictional
15 television program that features the same live subjects over the
16 course of more than one episode primarily for entertainment
17 purposes, but does not include reporting on a matter of public
18 concern by a journalist as defined by Article 38.11, Code of
19 Criminal Procedure.

20 Sec. 614.232. ACCOMPANYING AND FILMING PEACE OFFICERS FOR
21 REALITY TELEVISION PROGRAM PROHIBITED. A law enforcement agency
22 may not authorize a person to accompany and film a peace officer
23 acting in the line of duty for the purpose of producing a reality
24 television program.

1 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
3 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
4 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
5 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.