

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

H.B. No. 54

Substitute the following for H.B. No. 54:

By: Bowers

C.S.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. Chapter 614, Government Code, is amended by
7 adding Subchapter M to read as follows:

8 SUBCHAPTER M. ACCOMPANYING OR FILMING OF PEACE OFFICERS

9 Sec. 614.231. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

10 (1) "Law enforcement agency" means an agency of this
11 state or a political subdivision of this state that employs peace
12 officers.

13 (2) "Reality television program" does not include
14 reporting on a matter of public concern by a journalist as defined
15 by Article 38.11, Code of Criminal Procedure.

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

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

1 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.