

Amend CSSB 631 by adding the following appropriately numbered SECTION to the bill and renumbering existing SECTIONS of the bill accordingly:

SECTION _____. Article 33.04, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

Art. 33.04. MAY APPEAR BY COUNSEL. In [~~other~~] misdemeanor cases other than cases described by Article 33.03, the defendant may [~~, by consent of the State's attorney,~~] appear by counsel [~~7~~] and, if the defendant's counsel stipulates to the identity of the defendant, the trial may proceed without the defendant's [~~his~~] personal presence.