

By: Fallon

H.B. No. 259

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to persons allowed to record meetings of house and senate
3 committees.

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

5 SECTION 1. Chapter 306, Government Code, is amended by
6 adding Section 306.008 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 306.008. RECORDING OF COMMITTEE MEETINGS. (a) Except
8 as otherwise provided by this section, any person in attendance at
9 an open meeting of a house or senate committee, including a public
10 hearing, may make an audio or visual recording of the meeting.

11 (b) A person may record a committee meeting held on the
12 floor of the house or senate chamber from a location accessible to
13 the person.

14 (c) A person may not record a committee meeting in a manner
15 that disrupts the meeting or unreasonably obstructs the view of
16 other persons attending the meeting. The presiding officer of a
17 meeting may enforce this subsection but may not prohibit a person
18 from recording an open meeting in a nondisruptive manner.

19 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect December 1, 2017.