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| BILL ANALYSIS |

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| H.B. 439 |
| By: Shaheen |
| Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence |
| Committee Report (Unamended) |

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| **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**  Concerns have been raised regarding the civil protections available to a person who reports to law enforcement activity reasonably considered suspicious. H.B. 439 seeks to address this problem by establishing limitations on civil actions against a person who makes such a report. |
| **CRIMINAL JUSTICE IMPACT**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly create a criminal offense, increase the punishment for an existing criminal offense or category of offenses, or change the eligibility of a person for community supervision, parole, or mandatory supervision. |
| **RULEMAKING AUTHORITY**  It is the committee's opinion that this bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, department, agency, or institution. |
| **ANALYSIS**  H.B. 439 amends the Civil Practice and Remedies Code to prohibit a civil action from being brought against a person who made a report of suspicious activity of another person to an appropriate law enforcement authority if the person who made the report acted as a reasonable person would in the same or similar circumstances and with a reasonable belief that the suspicious activity constituted or was in furtherance of a crime, including an act of terrorism. |
| **EFFECTIVE DATE**  September 1, 2019. |