

By: Tinderholt

H.B. No. 1609

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the confidentiality of certain grand juror information.

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

SECTION 1. Article 19.42, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended to read as follows:

Art. 19.42. PERSONAL INFORMATION ABOUT GRAND JURORS. (a) Except as provided by Subsection (b), information collected by the court, court personnel, or prosecuting attorney during the grand jury selection process about a person who serves as a grand juror, including the person's name, home address, home telephone number, social security number, driver's license number, and other personal information, is confidential and may not be disclosed by the court, court personnel, or prosecuting attorney.

(b) On application by a party to the proceeding, or on application by a member of the news media acting in that capacity, to the court for the disclosure of information described by Subsection (a), the court shall, on a showing of good cause, [the court shall] permit disclosure of the information to the applicant [~~sought to a party to the proceeding~~].

SECTION 2. Article 19.42, Code of Criminal Procedure, as amended by this Act, applies to an application for disclosure of grand juror information that is filed on or after the effective date of this Act, regardless of whether the applicable grand juror who is the subject of the information served on a grand jury impaneled

1 before, on, or after that date.

2 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.