

## **BILL ANALYSIS**

H.B. 3925  
By: Collier  
Transportation  
Committee Report (Unamended)

### **BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE**

During Winter Storm Uri, as many roadways and sidewalks across the state were iced over or impassable, Rodney "RJ" Reese was arrested on the charge of a pedestrian in the roadway on his way home from work. Under current law, a pedestrian walking along and on a highway for which a sidewalk is not provided must walk on the left side of the roadway or the shoulder of the highway facing oncoming traffic, if possible. While the charges were dropped after Reese spent the night in jail, this particular offense is so prescriptive and obscure that many Texans are responsible for traveling in this manner without any knowledge that their conduct may constitute an offense. H.B. 3925 seeks to address this issue by eliminating this overly interventionist requirement.

### **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. 3925 repeals Section 552.006(b), Transportation Code, which requires a pedestrian walking along and on a highway for which an adjacent sidewalk is not provided to walk on the left side of the roadway or the shoulder of the highway facing oncoming traffic, if possible.

### **EFFECTIVE DATE**

September 1, 2021.