

1-1 By: Talarico, et al. (Senate Sponsor - Whitmire) H.B. No. 54
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House April 19, 2021;
1-3 April 19, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on
1-4 Criminal Justice; May 6, 2021, reported favorably by the following
1-5 vote: Yeas 6, Nays 0; May 6, 2021, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

| | Yea | Nay | Absent | PNV |
|------|-------------|-----|--------|-----|
| 1-7 | | | | |
| 1-8 | Whitmire | X | | |
| 1-9 | Huffman | X | | |
| 1-10 | Bettencourt | X | | |
| 1-11 | Birdwell | X | | |
| 1-12 | Hinojosa | X | | |
| 1-13 | Miles | X | | |
| 1-14 | Nichols | | X | |

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to accompanying and filming peace officers of state and
1-18 local law enforcement agencies for producing reality television
1-19 programs.

1-20 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-21 SECTION 1. This Act may be cited as Javier Ambler's Law.

1-22 SECTION 2. Chapter 614, Government Code, is amended by
1-23 adding Subchapter M to read as follows:

1-24 SUBCHAPTER M. ACCOMPANYING OR FILMING OF PEACE OFFICERS

1-25 Sec. 614.231. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

1-26 (1) "Law enforcement agency" means an agency of this
1-27 state or a political subdivision of this state that employs peace
1-28 officers other than game wardens.

1-29 (2) "Reality television program" means a nonfictional
1-30 television program that features the same live subjects over the
1-31 course of more than one episode primarily for entertainment
1-32 purposes, but does not include reporting on a matter of public
1-33 concern by a journalist as defined by Article 38.11, Code of
1-34 Criminal Procedure.

1-35 Sec. 614.232. ACCOMPANYING AND FILMING PEACE OFFICERS FOR
1-36 REALITY TELEVISION PROGRAM PROHIBITED. A law enforcement agency
1-37 may not authorize a person to accompany and film a peace officer
1-38 acting in the line of duty for the purpose of producing a reality
1-39 television program.

1-40 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
1-41 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
1-42 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
1-43 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
1-44 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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