

PUBLIC COMMENTS

HB 1737

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY & CIVIL JURISPRUDENCE

Hearing Date: March 17, 2021 8:00 AM

Shawna Cox, CSR #11533

Certified Court Reporters

Plano, TX

Many are unaware of the silent man/woman sitting quietly in the courtroom, but stenographic reporters are absolutely a necessity in the judicial process. Many are also unaware, that we go to school for years and years to become proficient in stenography and to become certified as court reporters. We have worked very hard to become certified, and our skills cannot be replaced by an audio recording device. Audio recordings cannot be used as official records for multiple reasons; to name a few, when multiple speakers speak over each other, voices will cancel each other out and be inaudible or unintelligible, multiple speaker identification cannot be done, accuracy would be nowhere near what it needs to be to certify an official transcript, and more. Judges are trained and work hard to attain the career they hold. Attorneys do the same. It is the same for court reporters. Would you replace an attorney or a judge with a machine? It is unthinkable. We are an honorable and very difficult profession and anyone who becomes certified in court reporting has done so much to earn that title. To be replaced by a recording device is unimaginable to those in my profession who have worked so hard to gain the licensing and skills we use in our career. On behalf of all of my fellow CSRs, we beg you to reconsider. Our careers, our livelihoods, and everything we have worked so hard for is at stake. Thank you for your time and your thoughtful consideration.

Cynthia Harris

Self/court reporter

Houston, TX

Please help us preserve the integrity of the record and our occupation.

Karen Kane

Bexar County Court Reporters

San Antonio, TX

I have been a court reporter in Texas since 1991. My Texas license was such an incredible license that I was able to report in Seattle and Chicago because of it. If you passed the Texas Court Reporter's Certification testing you were considered a hot commodity.

Our record is extremely important to the judicial system and an electronic recording could in no way substitute for us. We as Texas CSRs are talented multitaskers and can listen and write numerous people speaking at the same time while also viewing people's expressions and taking down every bit of it word by word with precise accuracy. To try to replace us with an electronic recording would not only take away many jobs, but it would hamper the professionalism and accuracy of the spoken word in the judicial system. I am 100% against any type of electronic recording device replacing us.

Rene Moarefi

TEXDRA

Houston, TX

I am wholeheartedly in support of this bill! The bill helps us protect the integrity of official transcripts by bringing court

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reporting in Texas into the 21st century by allowing us to utilize secure digital copies. Thank you, Rep. Moody, for sponsoring this for us.

Jennifer Sanders
Self/Court Reporters
Carrollton, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Christy Nowotny, TX CSR 11536
TEXDRA
San Antonio, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Terri Smith, Court Reporter
Self, Court Reportr
Jacksonville, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Melisa Duncan
Duncan Realtime Reporting
Mansfield, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Melanie Smith
self - court reporter
Longview, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. The integrity of the original deposition cannot be certified to properly when we must send out a paper copy that can be manipulated or portions could be removed or added before receiving it back. I strongly do support this bill. Thank you for your time.

Lisa Hundt
Self - court reporter
Fate, TX

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I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Denyce Sanders

Self

Houston, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I believe strongly in using the best technology out there to secure the electronic stenographic record.

Suzanne Saulsberry

self

Katy, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Andrea Massimini

Self - court reporter

Fort Worth, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Beth Rodriguez

Beth Howard & Associates

Dallas, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. Court reporters are the only participants in the court process who are trained, certified, and ethically bound to act as neutral protectors of the record. Every court proceeding, though it may seem minor and routine to those in the legal arena, is a major life event for the participants. Protect their words and their personal and business information by maintaining certified court reporters as the keepers of the record.

irene valdes

self/court reporter

HOUSTON, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Jennefer Franklin

Self, freelance court reporter

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Alvin, TX

I am a certified Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. As a freelance reporter, this is very important to the responsibilities of my career and affects me directly. I work hard to protect the integrity of the transcripts of the depositions I take and am in favor of anything that helps preserve that.

Janalyn Elkins

Self

Horseshoe Bay, TX

I am in favor of this bill to protect the integrity of the record by a Certified Court Reporter

Kimberly Wheelis, Court reporter

TX CSRs and court reporters

Round Rock, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Shantel Beheler, Court reporter

Self

Irving, TX

I am in favor of this bill

Yvette Perrodin

Self - court reporter

Houston, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Amber Collins

Court reporter /self

Kilgore, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

REBECCA CALLOW

Self, stenographer

Austin, TX

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I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. In this age of Deep Fakes, old-fashioned paper transcripts and PDF files are far too easy to alter. This bill will protect litigants in the state of Texas.

Amanda Blomstrom

Self, court reporter

Frisco, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Nashawn Meneley, CSR

Self- Certified Texas Court Reporter

New Braunfels, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Susan Baker, Ms.

self - freelance Certified Shorthand Reporter Texas No. 1561, certified November 6, 1979

Houston, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill because the integrity of a court reporter's record is under attack by "fake court reporters" who carry digital recorders and use a transcriber after the proceeding. Current Certified Texas Court Reporters use the most current technology to maintain complete and unadulterated transcripts which are accurate and created by trained professionals who uphold the highest standards of integrity and ethics. Please vote for this bill.

Annette Peltier

Texas Court Reporters

Houston, TX

I have been a Texas realtime reporter since 1986. Reporters protect a record like a recording cannot. Recordings can be compromised by parties and/or unscrupulous counsel (there are people in federal prison for just this right now) when there is enough at stake. Recordings and recorders can capture attorney-client privileged conversations, whether accidentally or accidentally on purpose. A human being reporter is most reliable and trustworthy and **YOU KEEP HUMANS EMPLOYED**, which should not be overlooked. Please consider you are not saving money and unqualified persons could be handling sensitive material and issues, plus you would be putting thousands out of work.

Shari Kloos

Self - court reporter

Dumas, TX

am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

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Kristi Usrey
Self/Court Reporter
Richardson, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Barbara Tokuz
self, Court Reporter
Rockwall, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Michelle Varner
Court reporter
Parker, TX

I am a Texas court reporter and I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and this bill is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Dana Taylor
self - court reporter
Mansfield, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

KELLY FISHER
self - court reporter
Austin, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Kim Tindall
Self
Bergheim, TX

I am in FAVOR of HB 1737. I am a Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter and own a large court reporting firm in San Antonio that does business across the entire state. I am a constituent of Representative Kyle Biedermann. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step

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in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Dawn Van Stean, CSR

self, court reporter

Houston, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Cindy Huggins

Retired 216th Official

Hunt, TX

I am a Texas Court Reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Jill Driscoll

self/licensed court reporters

Conroe, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process

Thank you.

Robert Buie, President and Owner

Self and my company, MBA Reporting Services, Inc.

Plano, TX

1. I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Robert Buie, President and Owner

Self and my company, MBA Reporting Services, Inc.

Plano, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Rachel kocurek

SELF - Court Reporter

Friendswood, TX

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I am a Texas court reporter and I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Paula LUCCHESI, Certified Court Reporter #1310

Lucchesi Reporting

League City, TX

I am a court reporter in Texas and I support this bill.

Lisa Greenwalt, court reporter

self -- court reporter

Boerne, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Wendy Golding

Self - Freelance court reporter

McKinney, TX

I am a licensed Texas court reporter for over 20-plus years. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Melissa Lindley

self

New Caney, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Laura Montalvo

self -- Texas certified shorthand reporter

San Antonio, TX

I am a Texas certified Court Reporter and I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires that court reporters use up-to-date technology in sending a certified transcript to a witness for reading and signing. This will ensure that transcripts will retain their security and integrity.

LAURIE CARLISLE

Carlisle Reporting

Houston, TX

Please note my support of this bill. I am a Texas court reporter. This bill will ensure that the integrity of the deposition transcript

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is maintained using the most current technology available.
Thank you.

Laura Tello, Court Reporter
Self, Harris County District Courts
Houston, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Skylar Perez, Certified Court Reporter
TEXDRA - court reporter
Corpus Christi, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Marcy Clark, CSR
Self, Court Reporter
Boerne, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Katherine Weldon
Self
Dallas, TX

A certified CSR should always be responsible for taking testimony and certifying the record.

Janet Hoffman, Ms.
self, court reporter
Spring, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Loren Gonzales
Yourself
HOUSTON, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the

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deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Liche Cavazos

self, Official Court Reporter for 218th District Court

San Antonio, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Andrea Desormeaux

Self, freelance court reporter

Manvel, TX

I work as a court reporter in the state of Texas. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Micheal Johnson

Self/Court Reporter

Cedar Park, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process

Peggy Ballew, Certified court reporter

Tarrant County

Weatherford, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Maribel Arredondo, Csr

Texas Court Reporters

Haslet, TX

As a Texas court reporter, I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to continue to utilize the most current technology available to produce a secure and accurate transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Reily Torres

Individual

Haslet, TX

Court reporters are essential to continuing to use technology and deliver an accurate transcript.

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Ariel Arredondo

Self

Haslet, TX

Cannot have a deposition without a certified court reporter.

Christine Sperbeck

Self - Freelance Court Reporter

Grapevine, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Amy Enberg

Self/Court Reporter

Llano, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secured transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Tamara Braun, CSR

Certified Shorthand Reporter / self

Hockley, TX

IN FAVOR OF HB 1737.

I am a Texas court reporter certified by the Supreme Court of Texas. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Christy sievert

Christy R. Sievert, CSR, RPR

Rockwall, TX

I am a Texas certified shorthand court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Carolyn Coronado, Mrs.

Carolyn Ruiz Coronado (2194)

Houston, TX

Dear Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence Committee Members:

I am in favor of this bill. I am a Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter. Please help us to secure the transcripts we produce. It is vital to protect the integrity of the record, and this bill will help us to do that. Thank you for your support and service.

Respectfully,

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Carolyn Ruiz Coronado, CSR, RPR

Kelly Rivera

Self - Freelance Court Reporter

Houston, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Michele Kuhlmann

Self/Court Reporter

Marble Falls, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Rebecca Graziano

Self - Texas CSR Number 9603

Frisco, TX

I am a Texas court reporter in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

DEBORAH DAVIDSON

DAVIDSON REPORTING, INC.

SAN ANTONIO, TX

I am a Texas certified court reporter . I am in favor of this bill because the bill requires that when an original deposition transcript is delivered, that the court reporter utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process

Connie Perrin

self

Midland, TX

In Favor Of

I am a retired Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Tanya Letbetter

Self - CSR

Flower Mound, TX

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I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Dicie Eytcheson, Ms.

Self - Freelance Court Reporter

San Antonio, TX

To Whom It May Concern: I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. Unfortunately maintaining the integrity of our deposition transcripts has become a serious concern once they leave our custody and control, and this bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. Thanking you in advance for your careful and thoughtful consideration!

Ann Renee Reagan

Self - Court Reporter

Houston, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Terrilyn Crowley

self, Texas certified shorthand reporter

Houston, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. Very truly, Terrilyn Crowley

Karen Young

self, official court reporter

Rosharon, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Pam Coder, Ms.

self

Houston, TX

Dear Committee: I am a Texas Certified Court Reporter/Stenographer I am highly in favor of this bill. The bill allows the court reporter to utilize the latest technology to deliver a digitally secure record for the witness to review and is a huge step in ensuring that the integrity of the record is maintained throughout the process for the benefit of the litigants. Thank you for taking the time to read this to help litigants across Texas. We appreciate your care and concern regarding this very urgent matter.

David Smith, Owner/Court Reporter

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Charlotte Smith Reporting, Inc.

The Woodlands, TX

Greetings. I have been a Texas court reporter since 1990 and own a court reporting firm in Texas. My mother, brother, wife and sister-in-law are court reporters. I have been in/around this business since 1968. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Christy Fagan

self - court reporter

Mansfield, TX

I have been a Texas court reporter since 1992 and I am in favor of this bill. I have seen the things done to my original transcripts after sending them out for review and signature and it's impossible for me and/or my firm to certify to the authenticity of the record when it's been dismantled and exhibits taken out, etc., which is what I'm supposed to be certifying to when sending it back to the hiring attorney. Retaining the original in our office and sending a certified electronic version will ensure that the actual original will never be altered and will be sent with it without corrections by the witness and their notarized signature to the custodial attorney each and every time. There's no other way to do this than to keep it in the hands of the reporter at all times so that they can certify to its authenticity. Please consider changing this old and outdated rule we've had for too many years. It's time to catch up with technology.

Laurie Shearer

Self, court reporter

Rosharon, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Kathryn Baker

Kathryn R Baker, LLC

Arlington, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Maria Fattahi

Self/Texas Certified Court Reporter

SannSntonio, TX

I strongly urge you to oppose the amendment where it states that a noncertified shorthand reporter may take the depositions because where is the accountability for error on producing an unbiased transcription? Being certified by the State of Texas is an arduous process and one who is CERTIFIED, like myself, takes certification very seriously. What are the ramifications of not complying w/the rules on ethics, price gouging, or being impartial? I urge you again to oppose this amendment.

Pennie Futrell, CSR

Self - Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter #4108

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Keller, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in FAVOR of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the INTEGRITY of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Joy O'Halla

Self, Court Reporter

Houston, TX

I have been a Texas court reporter for almost 35 years. I am in favor of HB 1737. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Mikki Sauer, Court Reporter

Mikki R Sauer

Houston, TX

am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Jean Fraunhofer

self - Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter

NEW BRAUNFELS, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Thank you for your cooperation!

Dianna Edwards, Court Reporter

Self

Orange, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Sarah Moreland

Official Court Reporter to the 260th District Court

Orange, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. Thank you.

Malissa Rudd

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MKR Reporting

FRISCO, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill.

Diane Robert

self

Terrell, TX

: I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Clarissa Charles, Court Reporter

self/court reporter

Corpus Christi, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. If ever a question were needed to be read back, it's easier for a live court reporter to search for specific terms to find the question to be read back than a digital device. Also, what happens if someone forgets to push "record," there's a power outage, or the system just completely fails and there's no realization of it until after proceedings? Punctuation and spelling could also be mistranslated with a recording. I am 100% in favor of this bill. I am a court reporter and I love my job. Don't take my job away from me.

Holli Harrison

Self/official court reporter

Orange, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill.

Terri Etekoachay

Self Official Court Reporter

Lancaster, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Amanda Sherlock, CSR

Self Employed Court Reporter

Little Elm, TX

I'm a Texas court reporter in favor of this bill. After 5 years of reporting school and almost \$60,000 in student loan debt, I find it disgusting that digital firms are trying to swoop in and send just anyone to record and transcribe very important and official transcripts that are crucial to attorneys. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

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Candyce Fisher

Self, Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter

RED OAK, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Dalia Inman

self/certified shorthand court reporter

Cedar Park, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Vicente Mendoza

Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter

LAREDO, TX

I am a Texas Court Reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the Court Reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Judy Gamm

Self - Court Reporter

Mabank, TX

I fully support this bill. I am a Texas court reporter. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Paula Beaver

Kerr County

Comfort, TX

I am in favor of this bill. The court reporter has been trained and certified in the taking and preservation of the record. Court reporters utilize the most current technology in an effort to deliver the most accurate, efficient record possible. We take great pride in ensuring we turn out quality work that the court system can rely on.

Louella Badipour

Self- Certified Shorthand Reporter

Spring, TX

I am an Official Reporter in a Texas district court. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. As an Official in court I understand the importance

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of a deposition transcript and the importance it has in our court proceedings. Especially when it comes to a witness's testimony and the weight and credibility it is given during trial proceedings.

Tonya Perkins
Self/Court Reporter
Burleson, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Kim Daigle
Self, Court Reporter
Vidor, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Shelly Stephenson, Official Court Reporter
self — court reporter
Silsbee, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Christy Cortopassi, Ms.
self - Court Reporter
Flower Mound, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Destiny Moses
self - official court reporter, 416th District Court, Collin County, Texas
Van Alstyne, TX

I am in favor of this bill. I am not currently a freelance court reporter, but when I was, this bill would have been a very positive option. This bill would allow for the integrity of the original to remain intact which is very different from now. Right now, the original hard copy transcript has to go directly to the witness's attorney or witness themselves so there is no guarantee you will get it back in the condition you sent it. With Zoom and technology growing, it only stands to reason that court reporters should have the option to send secure electronic copies to witnesses.

Ramona Bohnet, CSR
Self, free-lance court reporter
San Antonio, TX

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I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Karen Woolsey

freelance court reporter

Katy, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Shawna Cox

Certified Court Reporters

Plano, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Vickie Hildebrandt

self/court reporter

Houston, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Jonna Greenwood

Self -- Certified Court Reporter

Arlington, TX

I am a licensed Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Susan Scott

Self - Court Reporter

Houston, TX

I am IN FAVOR of HB 1737. This bill is long overdue to protect the integrity of the original deposition transcript record. For many, MANY years, deposition transcripts have been destroyed and even stolen, whether intentionally or not, and the certifying officer of the court (the Court Reporter), and also anyone else in possession of transcripts thus altered, has no way to know whether that transcript has been altered. This bill simply brings easy practicality to ensuring the integrity of transcripts with zero negative or deleterious effects upon the rights conferred to deponents under the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. PLEASE VOTE IN FAVOR of HB 1737 and bring the standards up to date with current technology. Thank you.

Donna King

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Self

Spring, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Dawn Tooke, Ms.

self - court reporter

McKinney, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process

Stephanie Lopez

self

Giddings, TX

For too many years now counsel wanting the original transcript sent from the court reporter/firm to themselves or their client have used this opportunity to dismantle and make a copy of the transcript. Many times these transcripts come back with pages not in sequential order, pages missing all the way to the binding being a different color than when sent. This influences the integrity of the original transcript and ends up costing the original asking attorney who pays greatly for the original and copy to have to pay an added fee to get ANOTHER certified original. This is unfair to the attorney and the court reporter/firm. Attorneys request the read and sign to do this, especially plaintiff attorneys, so they do not have to pay for a copy of said transcript. This also has a negative result of the reporter losing that copy sale to help make his/her income. I am IN FAVOR of this bill for everyone in the legal profession.

Patricia Gaddis

Gaddis Court Reporting

San Antonio, TX

I am a Texas Court Reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Geneva Villanueva

self court reporter

Pearland, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Donna Collins

Self and Collins Realtime Reporting, P.C.

Dallas, TX

I am in favor of this bill. It will ensure the integrity of the "original" record is maintained until trial by leaving it in the possession of the Certified Shorthand Reporter and/or Certified Reporting Firm. Historically, in my 40-plus years as a deposition reporter, there have been numerous times transcripts are either not returned at all or it is evident they have been taken apart and pages and/or exhibits removed, and sometimes the witness makes marks on the transcript pages. While there may have been an effort to resolve these issues with TRCP 203, it still has not been properly followed. This legislation will finally bring resolution to an ongoing issue.

Stormy Jackson

self - court reporter

Allen, TX

I am a Texas court reporter and have been certified since 1999. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Patricia Madrid

Self, official court reporter

El Paso, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Therese Casterline Kiernan

Self

The Colony, TX

I am a Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

irene valdes

self/court reporter

HOUSTON, TX

am IN FAVOR of HB 1737. This bill is long overdue to protect the integrity of the original deposition transcript record. For many, MANY years, deposition transcripts have been destroyed and even stolen, whether intentionally or not, and the certifying officer of the court (the Court Reporter), and also anyone else in possession of transcripts thus altered, has no way to know whether that transcript has been altered. This bill simply brings easy practicality to ensuring the integrity of transcripts with zero negative or deleterious effects upon the rights conferred to deponents under the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. PLEASE VOTE IN FAVOR of HB 1737 and bring the standards up to date with current technology. Thank you.

Kelley Burns

self - Official Court Reporter

Orange, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the

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deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. Thank you for the support of this bill.

Linda Tarr

Self

Spring, TX

Please oppose HB 1737. There is no longer a court reporter shortage in Texas. Many students have graduated recently, and there are many more who have provisional licenses and can cover certain proceedings. You do not want to start accepting digital or electronic recordings, trust me. I used to type tape-recorded trials when I lived in Canada. It is a fair statement to say it was extremely rare to get a clear recording. Many times it was a guess as to what was said. It has been proven over and over again that using court reporters is the only way to produce an accurate transcription of a proceeding.

Kimberly Koetter

court reporter

Inez, TX

I am a certified Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Cynthia Hyatt

self

La Vernia, TX

I am in favor of this bill.

Renee Barrett

Renee Barrett, Business Owner

Eules, TX

I own a Texas litigation support company. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Jamie Webb

Self/TEXDRA - Court Reporter

Celina, TX

Hello, I am a Texas court reporter and have been for 26 years. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. One cannot find the accuracy in a recording or otherwise. Live court reporters can interrupt proceedings where answers or questions may be inaudible, garbled, muffled, indiscernible, or where two or more are speaking simultaneously, making for an accurate record. Thank you.

Lauren Wilcox

Self/Librarian

New Caney, TX

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This should be turned down. Legal records must be taken by certified reporters in order to maintain the standards and integrity of the spoken word.

Abbey Coronado, Ms.

Court Reporters

Houston, TX

I am IN FAVOR of HB 1737. This bill is long overdue to protect the integrity of the original deposition transcript record. For many, MANY years, deposition transcripts have been destroyed and even stolen, whether intentionally or not, and the certifying officer of the court (the Court Reporter), and also anyone else in possession of transcripts thus altered, has no way to know whether that transcript has been altered. This bill simply brings easy practicality to ensuring the integrity of transcripts with zero negative or deleterious effects upon the rights conferred to deponents under the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. PLEASE VOTE IN FAVOR of HB 1737 and bring the standards up to date with current technology. Thank you.

CHARIS HENDRICK

Court Reporter

Ovilla, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. Thank you!!!

Audie Pritchard, CSR

court reporter

Winters, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process

Jennifer Marquardt

Self - Texas CSR (Certified Shorthand Reporter)

Katy, TX

I am a Texas certified court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Jennifer Marquardt

Self - Texas CSR (Certified Shorthand Reporter)

Katy, TX

I am IN FAVOR of HB 1737. This bill is long overdue to protect the integrity of the original deposition transcript record. For many, MANY years, deposition transcripts have been destroyed and even stolen, whether intentionally or not, and the certifying officer of the court (the Court Reporter), and also anyone else in possession of transcripts thus altered, has no way to know whether that transcript has been altered. This bill simply brings easy practicality to ensuring the integrity of transcripts with zero negative or deleterious effects upon the rights conferred to deponents under the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. PLEASE VOTE IN FAVOR of HB 1737 and bring the standards up to date with current technology. Thank you.

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Idalia Ramirez
Official court reporter
Edinburg, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Ashley Avila
SELF
Weslaco, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Allison Van Stean
Self, Lawyer
Plano, TX

I am a Texas lawyer, and I am in opposition of this bill. This bill could very much impact the already short-staffed court reporting profession, and cause the expenses for litigation to substantially increase, impacting small firms that are struggling due to court backups. In particular, this impacts plaintiffs firms, forced to incur numerous pre-litigation expenses.

Toi Dowell
self - Certified Court Reporter
Port Lavaca, TX

As a certified Texas court reporter, I am in favor of this bill. This bill will enable the court reporter to utilize the most current technology in delivery of a digitally secured transcript for review to the witness, and is one step in ensuring that the deposition transcript is not altered and secures the integrity of the deposition transcript from beginning to end.

Thank you for your time.

Rhonda McCay
ACR Ink, LLC, Court Reporter
El Pas, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. A court reporter having to provide the original transcript or a free copy to a counsel who has not ordered one nor paid for one is an undue burden on the court reporter both financially and ethically. It strains resources of court reporting firms to produce, deliver, follow-up on original transcripts and file errata sheets without compensation for these services. This requirement was not well thought through on the legislature's part. This bill would simplify that requirement. Please vote in favor of this bill.

Diana Ramos, Official Court Reporter

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HCO CRA and Self

Friendswood, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Greg Cox

Self/Portfolio manager

Austin, TX

I am in favor of this bill. Texas litigants need protection. Court reporting is high-tech and the laws in the state of Texas need to be updated to 21st century practices. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Diana Weibel

Self - Certified Court Reporter #4192

Mission, TX

MY NAME IS DIANA WEIBEL, CSR #4192. I AM A CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER IN AND FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS. PLEASE NOTE THAT I AM IN FAVOR OF BILL 1737 WHICH REQUIRES THE USE OF A CERTIFIED COURT REPORTER FOR DEPOSITIONS TAKEN IN THE STATE OF TEXAS. CERTIFIED COURT REPORTERS IN TEXAS HAVE ALWAYS STRIVED FOR PERFECTION IN THEIR PROFESSION AND WORK EXTREMELY HARD TO MAINTAIN THE INTEGRITY OF ALL DEPOSITIONS, COURT HEARINGS, ETC. TAKEN IN BOTH CRIMINAL AND CIVIL CASES IN TEXAS. WE HAVE WORKED HARD TO EARN AND RETAIN OUR CERTIFICATION AND WOULD RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT YOU HONOR OUR HARD WORK BY VOTING YES TO THIS BILL NO. 1737 -- AND VOTE NO TO BILL NO. 228 AND 1685!!! DIGITAL RECORDINGS ALONE CANNOT DO JUSTICE TO AN ACCURATE RECORD AS HAS BEEN PROVEN MANY TIMES IN THE PAST. CERTIFIED COURT REPORTERS ARE HIGHLY TRAINED AND WE TAKE PRIDE IN OUR PROFESSION. I APPRECIATE YOUR ATTENTION AND ACTION TO THIS MATTER.

Rose Davila, CSR

self Certified Shorthand Court Reporter

San Antonio, TX

I am a Texas Court Reporter. I'm in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology to deliver and digitally secure transcripts for review by the witness. This is a major step to ensure the integrity of transcripts. Please support this bill. Thank you

Sylvia Kerr

self - court reporter

Corpus Christit, TX

My name is Sylvia Kerr. I am a Texas court reporter. Please vote in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. So many offices are closed with no one there to accept the transcript. Most offices are going green and do not want a paper transcript.

Irene Salazar

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Self, Official Court Reporter

Harlingen, TX

My name is Irene Salazar. I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill because this bill will require the court reporter to utilize the most currently technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review. This is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained. Thank you.

Jo Ann Norton Holmgren

Self

Rockwall, TX

I am in support of Bill 1737. I have been a court reporter in the State of Texas for 36 years - CSR #2797. I also have a court reporting firm, Preferred Legal Services- CRF #157. It's amazing the number of times I've received original transcripts back from witnesses with no exhibits, pages missing, torn pages and exhibits. We need to utilize the technology at hand to ensure the integrity of the record by sending a digitally secured original for witness review. Technology is a wonderful thing, but if transcripts are sent to witnesses with no feature to prevent tampering with the original transcript then the original transcript can be compromised.

Thank you.

Misty McAdams

Self, Certified Shorthand Reporter

Elkhart, TX

I am a Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Thank you for voting in favor of HB 1737.

Barry Brazil

Self, Business owner - BrazilCo, Inc (Texas licensed Court Reporting Firm) (Member, TEXDRA & TCRA)

Missouri City, TX

CURRENT RULES HAVE NOT KEPT PACE WITH EXISTING TECHNOLOGY REGARDING THE ORIGINAL TRANSCRIPT. In prior decades, shorthand notes of testimony taken by a court reporter "CSR" was on a mechanical steno machine producing a paper "tape," manually translated then dictated onto a voice recording for editing and proofreading. A final version was typed by a scopist (typist specifically trained in legal transcription) or directly by the CSRs via typewriter onto sheet paper separated by several layers of carbon-copy paper. At that time, the concept and language differentiating an "original" transcript from a "copy" was evident.

Today, computer-aided transcription or "CAT" software automates steno-to-English translation by electronic "stroke" made by a CSR on a computerized steno machine directly into a digital file. The file is edited, proofread, finalized, then printed to paper, and exported to electronic files.

STILL ONLY ONE ORIGINAL TRANSCRIPT. In fact, the "original" transcript today resides only in electronic format within the CAT software on the steno machine's computer hard drive. According to GC Sec. 52 and TRCP Rule 203, a CSR or court reporting firm "CRF" can only comply with the letter of the law by sending the steno machine itself. Obviously, this is neither reasonable nor practical. In order to fully certify the transcript, traditional CRFs print a paper copy, ink stamp it as "original," bind original marked exhibits to it and send it via carrier to the attorney requesting the original transcript to complete the TRCP 203 read-and-sign process.

LOOPHOLES /DISJOINTED RULES ALLOW BREACH OF ORIGINAL TRANSCRIPT INTEGRITY. Outdated JBCC standards do not allow CSRs/CRFs to produce a secure electronic digital copy of the transcript, therefore paper must be

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used for the original. Based on many years of data collection, approximately 85% of all original paper transcripts sent to attorneys are not returned to the deposition officer for certification although Rule 203 requires such return. Of the approximate 15% that are returned, well over half (50%) are returned obliterated, therefore unusable. This jeopardized the witness' right to make changes, places undue burden on CSRs / CRFs to produce a "second original" for further certification and sealed delivery to the custodial attorney responsible for protecting the integrity of the transcript for its use in trial. However, the original marked exhibits are gone forever.

TIME TO ACT. It is time for statutes and rules to evolve in order to catch up with the electronic age. This process starts with amending the Government Code allowing the use of secure digital media. This act not only ensures the full compliance of rules/statutes and preserves the integrity of the transcript, it provides greater convenience for both the witness and the witness' attorney, mitigates the risk of the witness being deemed to have waived the right to make changes and remedies the undue burden placed on CSR/CRFs

Crystal Saldana

Self/Freelance Court Reporter

Sinton, TX

As a court reporter I have worked very hard to preserve the spoken word of every client/witness since the beginning of my career. For a bill to strip that integrity from us as court reporters and therefore the witness themselves because the record will no longer be preserved by certification if this passes makes no sense. What weight would testimony from these transcripts hold as evidence in court and elsewhere if we can no longer certify its authenticity? PLEASE DO NOT PASS THIS BILL!

Suzanne Hanus, Official Court Reporter

2547575045

Waco, TX

I am a Texas certified court reporter and work in the 170th District Court in Waco, Texas. I'm in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. Although this bill doesn't address official court reporters, it is also important that officials are required to utilize the most current technology available to deliver digitally secure transcripts to attorneys and especially to courts of appeals during an appeal of a case. I feel we must always strive for the highest of integrity. Thank you for your consideration.

Pamela Smith, Ms.

Self, Court Reporter

Springtown, TX

My name is Pamela Smith, and I am a Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter. I support HB 1737 because it allows the reporter the ability to control the transcript, and thus protect its integrity. I understand this bill grants the authority to the reporter to deliver for signature a secure digital transcript that may not be tampered with nor printed.

Nancy Newhouse

Active Court Reporting, LLC

Sachse, TX

I support this bill whole heartedly. Thank you

Shantel Zambrano

Self, Official Court Reporter

Edinburg, TX

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My name is Shantel Zambrano and I am a certified shorthand reporter here in Texas. I AM IN SUPPORT OF THIS BILL!

Monique Mason
Self court reporter
Fort Worth, TX

I support HB 1737. Please pass - for advancement of transcript integrity and our profession

Tina Thompson
SELF - Court Reporter
GARLAND, TX

I approve

Grace Duncan
Self/Court Reporter
WIMBERLEY, TX

My name is Grace C. Duncan, and I am a Texas certified shorthand reporter. I am in support of HB 1737 because, with the passage of this bill, the ability to control the transcript, and thus protect its integrity, remains with the court reporter or court reporting firm, thus preventing transcripts from being tampered with and invalidated by such tampering.

Please vote in support of HB 1737 to safeguard the integrity of court reporter's transcripts. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Liesa Kliman
Self
Lufkin, TX

Please support HB 1737.

Amber Collins, Court reporter
Court reporter/self
Kilgore, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

April Balcombe
self
Austin, TX

I am in SUPPORT of HB 1737. With the advancement of technology and more obstacles we have to protect the official record of the Court, I absolutely support HB 1737. We must maintain the integrity of the record and ensure the Original transcript is not tampered with in any way, including printing. As a Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter since 1993, I have seen how technology

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has advanced for us but also left the record vulnerable when its original is not security sent via electronically. We MUST secure the digital transcript for that is the history; we are the recordkeepers. It gives us undue liability to NOT send it secured and there is no intelligent reason why court reporters should not be able to send it secured and unprintable. Thank you.

Kensie Benoit

Bexar County Official Court Reporter

San Antonio, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

April Balcombe

self/CSR/court reporter

Austin, TX

I am not sure if my first comment went through, so my apologies if it did. I am in SUPPORT of HB 1737. With the advancement of technology and more obstacles we have to protect the official record of the Court, I absolutely support HB 1737. We must maintain the integrity of the record and ensure the Original transcript is not tampered with in any way, including printing. As a Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter since 1993, I have seen how technology has advanced for us but also left the record vulnerable when its original is not security sent via electronically. We MUST secure the digital transcript for that is the history; we are the recordkeepers. It gives us undue liability to NOT send it secured and there is no intelligent reason why court reporters should not be able to send it secured and unprintable. Thank you.

Kelly Hanna

Self

Houston, TX

I am a Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Jim Hanna

Self

Houston, TX

I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Kelly Hanna, President

Texas Deposition Reporters Association

Houston, TX

I am a Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Donna Whiteside

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Myself - Freelance Court Reporter and Official for Montgomery County

Conroe, TX

As a certified court reporter, I am in support of this bill. We need to protect our record from being tampered with, taken apart, not returned, copied and forwarded to attorneys or other people that have not paid for our work product. This bill will allow for the deposition to be sent for signature, but it will safeguard it from misuse.

Thank you.

Amanda Fuller

self/court reporter

San Benito, TX

I am IN FAVOR of HB 1737. This bill is long overdue to protect the integrity of the original deposition transcript record. For many, MANY years, deposition transcripts have been destroyed and even stolen, whether intentionally or not, and the certifying officer of the court (the Court Reporter), and also anyone else in possession of transcripts thus altered, has no way to know whether that transcript has been altered. This bill simply brings easy practicality to ensuring the integrity of transcripts with zero negative or deleterious effects upon the rights conferred to deponents under the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. PLEASE VOTE IN FAVOR of HB 1737 and bring the standards up to date with current technology. Thank you.

Lei Sherra Chambers

self court reporter

Duncanville, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of HB 1737. This bill will allow court reporters to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is significant in keeping the integrity of the transcript throughout the whole process.

Thank you for your time.

Angela McBride

Self, Certified Shorthand Reporter

Houston, TX

My name is Angela N. McBride, Certified Shorthand Reporter. I support HB 1737 which will allow court reporters to deliver a digital transcript without the concern of having the transcript tampered with after it has left our hands. As Certified Shorthand Reporters, we take pride in purchasing, learning to use, and implementing the software and equipment we buy to produce the best product according to our skillset, a verbatim transcription of hearing proceedings. Having the ability to use the software to deliver any transcription free of tampering by another helps not only the certified shorthand reporter but also all attorneys, litigants, courts, and the entire justice system. Again, I support HB 1737. Thank you.

Rebekah Voisin

self Freelance court reporter

Spring, TX

My name is Rebekah C. Voisin, CSR, and I am a Texas certified shorthand reporter. I oppose HB 228/1685 because this bill allows an inferior method of reporting court procedures by allowing uncertified, untrained individuals to record court proceedings. Many courts in the past have utilized electronic recording and went back to certified court reporters after several problems including complaints of quality of transcripts, missing or inaudible recordings, retrials of cases due to lost digital recordings, and unexpected costs of maintenance and additional personnel required to perform all the functions that a certified court reporter provides.

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Please vote against HB 228/1685 to safeguard the rights of Texas residents. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Kim Dickman

Self

Dallas, TX

I am in support of HB 1737 allowing Texas Certified Shorthand Reporters to submit a secure digital transcript for review and signature by the witness in order to prevent transcript tampering.

Stacey Paget, Certified shorthand reporter

Self

Grapevine, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Anne Sitka

self Texas Certified Court Reporter

Houston, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am IN FAVOR of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. Please vote in favor of this bill! Thank you!

Leticia Escamilla, Deputy court reporter

Self - freelance court reporter

San Antonio, TX

My name is Leticia M. Escamilla. I am a Texas certified court reporter and I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the latest technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is important in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Leticia M. Escamilla

(210) 452-3516

Wendy Roberts, Court reporter

Self. Court reporter

Garland, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process

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Sarah Lindsey

TXDRA

Katy, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Allen Lindsey

Self- Engineer

Katy, TX

My wife is a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Jamie Hess

Self - Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter

Rowlett, TX

I have been a Texas certified court reporter since 1996. I am in favor of HB 1737. This bill allows court reporters and firms to send deposition transcripts for review, corrections and signature in a secure, password-protected and encrypted format, protecting the record from being altered after the court reporter certifies to its accuracy. This will protect the sworn testimony, which often has highly confidential and HIPAA-related information, from hackers and identity thieves. This is so important to ensure the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. Thank you.

Kayla Scott

self/court reporter

Garland, TX

My name is Kayla Scott, and I am a Texas certified shorthand reporter. I am in favor of HB 1737 because this bill allows me, as a certified shorthand reporter, the ability to control a transcript that I have certified and thus protects the integrity of the transcript. HB 1737 will grant authority to the reporter to deliver for signature a secure digital transcript that may not be tampered with nor printed.

Please vote for HB 1737. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Camelia Walia

Court reporters

Irving, TX

I am totally for this bill

Meredith Shoemaker

Self, Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter

Sugar Land, TX

My name is Meredith A. Shoemaker, and I am a licensed Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter. I strongly urge the passage of HB 1737. It is imperative that the integrity of the transcript be maintained in this day and age where the written or digital page can be changed unbeknownst to the reporter who produced and certified the transcript. Additionally, we have learned as a result of COVID that depositions can be conducted remotely as easily and seamlessly as being held in person. Therefore, a certified court reporter anywhere in the state can be available to take a deposition without the need for it being audio recorded by an untrained and unlicensed operator of a tape recorder. I have covered remote depositions and hearings for nearly a year, covering proceedings in West Texas, the Valley, the Hill Country, as well as near my home in the Greater Houston area.

I ask that you pass HB 1737 in its entirety as proposed.

Alicia Brooks

Self

Taft, TX

As a certified Texas shorthand reporter I support this bill. I think it would be good for the progress of the profession and will help keep the integrity of the reporter's record safe.

I ask that you please support this bill.

Thank you.

Susan L Graham

Self/Freelance Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter

Houston, TX

I am IN FAVOR of HB 1737. This bill is long overdue to protect the integrity of the original deposition transcript record. For many, MANY years, deposition transcripts have been destroyed and even stolen, whether intentionally or not, and the certifying officer of the court (the Court Reporter), and also anyone else in possession of transcripts thus altered, has no way to know whether that transcript has been altered. This bill simply brings easy practicality to ensuring the integrity of transcripts with zero negative or deleterious effects upon the rights conferred to deponents under the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. PLEASE VOTE IN FAVOR of HB 1737 and bring the standards up to date with current technology. Thank you.

Robin Gross

Self. Court reporter.

Porter, TX

Please use this bill to protect the integrity of the record keepers and the record.

Thank you,

Robin Gross

Texas CSR No. 9015

Natalie Hunsucker

Hoffman Reporting & Video Services

San Antonio, TX

HB 1737 is vital to the protection and security of court reporters' transcriptions.

DEMETRICE L MAXIE

TEXDRA

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HOUSTON, TX

As a Certified Shorthand Reporter, I strongly support this bill.

Brian Christopher

Self, Manager of a court reporting firm

Austin, TX

I am a Texas Court Reporting Firm. I am in favor of this bill. This bill clarifies and allows the court reporting firm to utilize PDFs to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Mary Procell

self Freelance Court Reporter

El Paso, TX

With the technological advancements that are facing the court reporting and legal fields, I believe changes should be made with the way transcripts are provided to attorneys for their clients to read and sign. I wholeheartedly agree with the statement copied below by the Texas Deposition Reporters Association:

"Today's technological advancements provide court reporters many tools to protect the integrity of the transcript that simply did not exist just a few short years ago.

These advancements demand that the statute be modernized to reflect the reporter's improved ability to secure the record. That is what HB 1737 does, and that is all that it does. With the passage of this bill, the ability to control the transcript, and thus protect its integrity, remains with the court reporter or court reporting firm. No longer will a court reporter certify a transcript and send it out for signature only to concern themselves with whether it has been tampered with and whether their certification has been invalidated by such tampering. HB 1737 grants authority to the reporter to deliver for signature a secure digital transcript that may not be tampered with nor printed."

As court reporters, we should be able to protect our certified records, without fear of them being printed and manipulated with the myriad programs that would allow such manipulation, putting our integrity and certifications at risk.

Graciela Caka, Ms.

Self, official court reporter

Willis, TX

To the honorable committee members of HB1737:

My name is Graciela Caka. I am a certified court reporter for the State of Texas. Please vote FOR HB1737. It is vital that the integrity of witness testimony taken during a deposition is PROTECTED. Please support HB1737

Joana Contreras, Apprentice Court Reporter

Self - Apprentice Court Reporter

El Paso, TX

I am a Texas apprentice court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Cynthia Lenz

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Self, Court Reporter

Laredo, TX

I am in support of HB 1737. I am a court reporting firm owner. I believe the passing of this bill will help protect the integrity of the transcript. Thank you.

Melinda Lorenzoni, CSR

Self - Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter

Dallas, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Rebecca Elmendorf

Self-Court Reporter

Bulverde, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Mamie Brookins

Self - Certified Shorthand Reporter State of Texas

Rowlett, TX

I write in support of this bill to maintain the integrity of the certified transcript produced by a certified shorthand reporter and not allow tampering of the original transcript. Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Brooke Among, CSR

self

Houston, TX

I am a Texas court reporter, and I am in favor of this bill. With the way that technology is constantly advancing, this bill will allow for court reporters to ensure the integrity of their transcripts will be maintained throughout the delivery process with the most current digitally advanced method of delivery, free of tampering.

KIMBERLY KIDD

Self/CSR

FRIENDSWOOD, TX

I am in favor of this Bill. I have been a reporter since 1984 and have full knowledge of the importance of this bill.

Angelia Singleton, CSR

HCOCRA

Spring, TX

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I support HB 1737

Janice McMoran

Janice McMoran

Granbury, TX

I am writing this to urge you to SUPPORT HB 1737. This bill is long overdue to protect the integrity of the original deposition transcript record. For many, MANY years, deposition transcripts have been destroyed and even stolen, whether intentionally or not, and the court reporter or anyone else in possession of transcripts which have been returned (if they are returned) has no way to know whether that transcript has been altered. The original transcript, if signature is requested, should be protected and not subject to disassembling or tampering.

This bill simply brings easy practicality to ensuring the integrity of transcripts with zero negative or deleterious effects upon the rights conferred to deponents under the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. PLEASE VOTE IN FAVOR of HB 1737 and bring the standards up to date with current technology.

Thank you!

Mary Ann Rodriguez, Deputy Official Court Reporter

Freelance Certified Court Reporters.

Houston, TX

My name is Mary Ann Rodriguez and I have been a reporter for 34 years. I am in favor of HB 1737. It will keep the integrity of the record and secure it. There can be no tampering with the record if this Bill is passed. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Brandi Sewell

self, official and part-time freelance court reporter

Beaumont, TX

As both an official court reporter and a former freelance reporter, who still occasionally does deposition work, I would urge my strong support of HB1737. Thank you

Stephanie Clark, Major, RET

SELF COURT REPORTER

BULVERDE, TX

SUPPORT

This bill protects the integrity of the original transcript, which is the reason that I have been certified by the Texas Supreme Court. It is too easy to have non-certified transcripts used, as well as transcripts which have been changed due to insecure transmission.

Wendy Golding

Self - Freelance court reporter

McKinney, TX

I support this HB 1737

Mattie Kimble

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Court Reporting

Houston, TX

I believe this will be an important Bill and I support the passage of HB1737. Thank you.

Holly Burns

self, freelance court reporter

Kingwood, TX

I ask that you vote FOR HB 1737 to preserve the integrity of sworn testimony. As a court reporter, I feel it is imperative to protect the record of a witness' testimony, which I work hard to take down and make into a readable form. This bill, with the help of current technology, will help prevent my transcripts from being altered or manipulated.

Gloria Carlin

self - freelance court reporter

Mansfield, TX

I support HB 1737.

This brings reporting all the way into the electronic age of submitting original deposition electronically and protects the original from being altered.

Pamela Nichols

Self - independent court reporter

Hutto, TX

Distinguished Members of the Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence Committee:

I am in favor of HB 1737 and would ask that you vote "Yes" to approve this bill. I am a Texas deposition court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

The electronic delivery of an original tamper-proof deposition transcript and exhibits would not only secure the witness's testimony, but also would streamline the processes within a court reporting office, as well as eliminate the risk of damage or misplacement during a physical delivery by a shipper. The passage of this bill would allow the court reporting industry to utilize current technology as is done by most other industries.

Terri Nelson

self/Certified Shorthand Reporter

COPPELL, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Brenda Wright

Self - Court Reporter and Court Reporting Firm Owner

Austin, TX

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I SUPPORT H.B. 1737

I OPPOSE H.B. 228

I OPPOSE .B. 1685

thank you,
Brenda Wright

Maricela Flores

Self/Freelance court reporter

Corpus Christi, TX

I am a freelance court reporter of 37 years. As court reporters, our first duty is to Protect the Integrity of the Record, and we now have the tools to do so with a password-protected, encrypted digital format that allows reading of a certified deposition transcript but prevents the alteration, deletion, and/or manipulation of a document. Submission in a Secure Digital Format will track every change made to the original deposition transcript following the court reporter's certification and will also identify who made the changes. Thank you so much for your attention to this matter.

Edna Casanova

Self

Boerne, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Thank you,
Edna Casanova

Christa Townes, court reporter

self - 418th District Court - Official Court Reporter

Conroe, TX

SUPPORT H.B. 1737

Brian Sanford

Self

Dallas, TX

Please oppose the bill. It disproportionately affects individuals at the expense of corporations in civil jurisprudence. The bill would prevent the receipt and examination of an original deposition transcript by an individual witness being deposed, having to pay a windfall fee to the court reporting firm to examine and make a copy of the witness's transcript of his or her own deposition testimony. The bill unnecessarily increases the cost of litigation at the expense of justice.

Penny Pabitzky

self / court reporter

Nederland, TX

I am IN FAVOR of HB 1737. This bill is long overdue to protect the integrity of the original deposition transcript record. For many, MANY years, deposition transcripts have been destroyed and even stolen, whether intentionally or not, and the certifying

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officer of the court (the Court Reporter), and also anyone else in possession of transcripts thus altered, has no way to know whether that transcript has been altered. This bill simply brings easy practicality to ensuring the integrity of transcripts with zero negative or deleterious effects upon the rights conferred to deponents under the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. PLEASE VOTE IN FAVOR of HB 1737 and bring the standards up to date with current technology. Thank you.

Melody Joiner

Self

El Paso, TX

In favor of HB1737

Elizabeth Sanford

self

Dallas, TX

This bill will unfairly prejudice corporations and defendants in lawsuits against indigent parties or parties without the same resources. It will have a chilling effect on those who have a legitimate lawsuit but cannot afford the costs that come with the lawsuit. Each party already pays for unmarked copies of transcripts by court reporters and court reporters charge for the original. There is no need to create a "secure digital copy" when there is an original. This bill seems like an attempt for certain court reporters to inflate already inflated prices.

It is also important for the deponent to receive the original copy of the transcript at all times.

I strongly oppose this bill.

William Hommel

Hommel Law Firm

Tyler, TX

HB 1737 is the bill I write to oppose. Court reporters will use this law to deprive witnesses the right to receive a copy of their original deposition without having to buy a copy of the deposition from the court reporting firm. Court reporters routinely attempt to charge exorbitant fees for copies of depositions when they are required to provide the original for review by the witness. This is a complete shakedown by court reporting firms and disproportionately affects plaintiffs who are represented by attorneys working on a contingency basis.

Jacquelyn Arbuckle Hill

Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter TCRA/Self

SAN ANTONIO, TX

Hello. My name is Jacquelyn Arbuckle Hill. I am a Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter, license number 2481. I am in favor of this bill.

This bill requires the Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Thank you for your attention in this matter.

Jacquelyn Arbuckle Hill,

Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter No. 2481

6319 Regency Lane

San Antonio, Texas 78249

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(210)633-4919

Desiree Heflin

Self - Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter (since 1984)

Houston, TX

There are very important bills up for consideration and tons could be said about these bills; but in short, here are a couple of comments:

I have been a certified shorthand reporter in Houston, Texas, since 1984. I have paid state licensing fees and have kept up continuing education for 36 years. I am VERY concerned about allowing CERTIFIED transcripts to be sent here, there and everywhere electronically without any oversight in place. This is a growing problem and VERY dangerous for the integrity of court transcripts. We truly need to keep our certified transcripts. Also, we need LIVE court reporters in our courts. If you have ever read a voice text message or an automated transcription of a voice mail, you have no doubt seen the problems with just recording proceedings and having them auto-transcribed.

Please consider -

SUPPORTING H.B. 1737

OPPOSING H.B. 228

OPPOSING H.B. 1685

Thank you for your consideration.

Mary Berry

Self, Court Reporter

San Antonio, TX

Hello Judiciary & Civil Jurisprudence Committee Members,

My name is Mary Berry and I am the official reporter for the 131st District Court in Bexar County, Texas.

Please vote in favor of HB 1737. It will allow the original depositions to remain intact, without missing pages or exhibits, and secure the integrity of the deposition. By having the deposition encrypted and password protected, the digital format of a deposition will prevent the alteration, deletion, and/or manipulation of the document.

As a court reporter, it is our duty to protect and preserve the spoken word, and I ask for your support in voting YES to HB 1737.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Karen Washington

Self

Dallas, TX

I oppose this bill. Many witnesses are not comfortable reviewing their testimony electronically and are clueless about how to make corrections to the mistakes of the reporters. It would be unfair to require them to buy their own testimony so that they can make sure that the court reporter has done her job correctly. The court reporter is paid by the party that sends the notice as well as by any party that orders a copy of the deposition. That should be the extent of the pay that they earn. There is no justification for a court reporter being paid 2 or 3 times for the same work. The testimony doesn't belong to them.

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Trisha Myler
self, court reporter
Farmers Branch, TX

I am a court reporter in Texas, and I am in favor of HB 1737. I have been reporting for over 20 years and have always known that original transcripts that are sent to the witnesses or their attorneys very often are either not returned or are returned in a disheveled condition. I have never been comfortable with my name and signature being attached to these transcripts after they have been returned in this condition, given that I am certifying that the transcript is an accurate record of the proceedings. Technology has come a long, long way in 20 years, and I believe we should be able to send our original transcripts out to the witnesses or their attorneys in a digital format that is locked so that it cannot be tampered with or altered, therefore giving me confidence I am still certifying the record is true and accurate after the witness has reviewed it. Please help us maintain the integrity of the record.

Robin Hopper
Self - Court Reporter
Tomball, TX

I am IN FAVOR of HB 1737. This bill is long overdue to protect the integrity of the original deposition transcript record. For many, MANY years, deposition transcripts have been destroyed and even stolen, whether intentionally or not, and the certifying officer of the court (the Court Reporter), and also anyone else in possession of transcripts thus altered, has no way to know whether that transcript has been altered. This bill simply brings easy practicality to ensuring the integrity of transcripts with zero negative or deleterious effects upon the rights conferred to deponents under the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. PLEASE VOTE IN FAVOR of HB 1737 and bring the standards up to date with current technology. Thank you.

Beth Sheen
BETH L. SHEEN, CSR
Fulshear, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor HB 1737. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Breitney Daniels
Advantage Reporting Service - Court Reporters
Montgomery, TX

I am IN FAVOR of HB 1737. This bill is long overdue to protect the integrity of the original deposition transcript record. For many, MANY years, deposition transcripts have been destroyed and even stolen, whether intentionally or not, and the certifying officer of the court (the Court Reporter), and also anyone else in possession of transcripts thus altered, has no way to know whether that transcript has been altered. This bill simply brings easy practicality to ensuring the integrity of transcripts with zero negative or deleterious effects upon the rights conferred to deponents under the Texas Rules of Civil Procedure. PLEASE VOTE IN FAVOR of HB 1737 and bring the standards up to date with current technology. Thank you.

Cynthia Barnett
self - freelance court reporter
Houston, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the

deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Linda Park, Realtor

SAelf

Nederland, TX

I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Andrew Sutton, Mr.

self, self-employed

Houston, TX

Today's technological advancements provide court reporters many tools to protect the integrity of the transcript that simply did not exist just a few short years ago.

These advancements demand that the statute be modernized to reflect the reporter's improved ability to secure the record. That is what HB 1737 does, and that is all that it does. With the passage of this bill, the ability to control the transcript, and thus protect its integrity, remains with the court reporter or court reporting firm. No longer will a court reporter certify a transcript and send it out for signature only to concern themselves with whether it has been tampered with and whether their certification has been invalidated by such tampering. HB 1737 grants authority to the reporter to deliver for signature a secure digital transcript that may not be tampered with nor printed.

We urge you to please support this bill and encourage others to do the same.

Vielica Dobbins

Certified Shorthand Reporter

CEDAR HILL, TX

My name is Vielica Dobbins, and I am a Texas certified shorthand reporter. I support HB 1737 because this bill allows a court reporter to send a deposition for signature as a secured digital copy that cannot be altered or tampered without changes being identified to all parties. This is just another added layer of impartiality to all parties. Thank you again for your consideration and attention to this matter and voting for HB 1737 to safeguard the rights of Texas residents.

Michelle Propps

Self - Freelance Court Reporter

Houston, TX

am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Susan Green

Susan Green, CSR

Adkins, TX

My name is Susan Green, and I am a Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter. I agree with the passing of HB 1737. With the passage of this bill, the ability to control the transcript, and thus protect its integrity, remains with the court reporter and/or the court

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reporting firms. No longer will a court reporter certify a transcript and send it out for signature only to have to concern themselves with whether it has been tampered with and whether their certification has been invalidated caused by such tampering. HB 1737 grants authority to the reporter to deliver for signature a secure digital transcript that may not be tampered with nor printed. We have been needing this to pass for far too long.

We urge you to please support HB 1737 and encourage others to do the same.

Ricardo Godinez

self

McAllen, TX

The constant fees for litigation and starting to make it harder for the average citizen access to the courthouse. Litigation costs continue to skyrocket. For years, attorneys representing people have been able to avoid expensive depo costs by having access to their sworn deposition testimony to verify the testimony, which is allowed by the Tex Rules of Civil Procedure. Allowing this law to pass makes it harder for average citizens to bring suits to protect their rights

David Smith, CSR

CSR, Inc.

The Woodlands, TX

I am a Texas-certified court reporter since 1990. I am in favor of HB1737. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Nathalene Sue Allen

Allen Law Firm

Forest Hill, TX

I am opposed to this bill which is a grab by out of state deposition firms who want to charge fees to the deponent for a hard copy of his or her own deposition transcript. It is a bad idea and we need to focus on helping our fellow Texans, not hurting them.

Dennis lee

TRIP

ORANGE, TX

I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Alexandra McDaniel, CSR

Harris County Official Court Reporter's Association

Houston, TX

My name is Alexandra McDaniel and I am a Certified Shorthand Reporter for Texas. I would please like for you to vote Yes on this bill. This will be very helpful to the reporting community. Our profession needs you to please vote YES on this bill. Thank you for your consideration.

Janet Saavedra

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self, court reporter

Waxahachie, TX

My name is Janet Saavedra, and I am a Texas certified shorthand reporter. I support this bill in its entirety and ask you to please vote for HB 1737.

Heather Franklin

self

Alvin, TX

I am a family member of a Texas Court Reporter and I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review, and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. Without this bill, it directly affects my family member whose name is on the transcript and puts into question the integrity that the transcript has not been tampered with. Court reporters work extremely hard to ensure they are getting accurate transcripts and without this protection, it allows others to tamper with and be dishonest with the record.

TOMMI GRAY, MS.

SELF/CERTIFIED SHORTHAND REPORTER (TEXAS #1693)

MESQUITE, TX

My name is Tommi Rutledge Gray, and I am a Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter (Texas #1693), a Registered Professional Reporter, and a Certified Realtime Reporter. I SUPPORT HB 1737. Advancements demand that the statute be modernized to reflect the reporter's improved ability to secure the record. That is what HB 1737 does. With the passage of this Bill, the ability to control the transcript, and thus protect its integrity, remains with the court reporter or court reporting firm. No longer will a court reporter certify a transcript and send it out for signature only to concern themselves with whether it has been tampered with and whether their certification has been invalidated by such tampering. HB 1737 grants authority to the Certified Shorthand Reporter to deliver for signature a secure digital transcript that may not be tampered with nor printed.

Please vote IN SUPPORT OF HB 1737. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Carolyn Franklin

Self

Vidor, TX

I am a family member of a Texas certified court reporter, and I am in favor of HB 1737. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. Without this bill, it directly affects my family member whose name is on the transcript and puts into question the integrity that the transcript has not been tampered with. Court reporters work extremely hard to ensure they are getting accurate transcripts; and without this protection, it allows others to tamper with and be dishonest with the record. Please vote in favor of HB 1737. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Martha Franklin

self

Vidor, TX

I am a family member of a Texas certified court reporter, and I am in favor of HB 1737. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. Without this bill, it directly affects

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my family member whose name is on the transcript and puts into question the integrity that the transcript has not been tampered with. Court reporters work extremely hard to ensure they are getting accurate transcripts; and without this protection, it allows others to tamper with and be dishonest with the record. Please vote in favor of HB 1737. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Darla Smith

Self

Nederland, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

KRISTA HALL

court reporter

SPLENDORA, TX

My name is Krista Hall, and I am a Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter. Please help us to secure the transcripts we produce. It is vital to protect the integrity of the record made in legal proceedings, and this bill will help us to do that. Thank you for your support and service.

Wynona Gieb

SELF/COURT REPORTER

Krum, TX

I am a Texas court reporter. I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process.

Jon Franklin

self

Pflugerville, TX

Please vote to support this bill.

Lisa Thrash, CSR

Self, Court Reporter

Amarillo, TX

My name is Lisa Thrash. I am a Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter. I support HB 1737. Passing this bill would require the court reporter to utilize the latest technology in delivering the transcript digitally. This allows the reporter to ensure the integrity of the deposition transcript through a secure method of delivery. This would help to prevent alterations and deletions to the original transcript that has been certified by the reporter.

Please vote for HB 1737 to help ensure the integrity of the record. Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Donna Worley, Mrs.

Self - court reporter

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Magnolia, TX

I feel it is vital to pass this bill to further protect the transcripts due to the modernized advancements that are now available in our profession . I feel this security is very important in protecting the record.

Marilee Anderson, Official Court Reporter

HCO CRA / Self, Certified Shorthand Reporter

Houston, TX

My name is Marilee Anderson, and I am a Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter. I support HB 1737 which allows the court reporter to deliver for signature a secure digital transcript that may not be tampered with nor printed in order to preserve testimony as originally given under oath. Please vote FOR HB 1737 to preserve the integrity of the record. Thank you for your support.

Darlene Stein, Official Court Reporter

HCO CRA/Self and Certified Shorthand Reporter

Houston, TX

My name is Darlene Stein, and I am a Texas certified shorthand reporter. I SUPPORT HB 1737 because it allows the court reporter to deliver for signature secure digital transcripts which may not be altered nor printed in order to protect the integrity of the testimony given under oath. Please vote FOR HB 1737 to protect the integrity .of the record

Patricia Soto

Self, Court Reporter

Corpus Christi, TX

It took quite a while for me to certify as a court reporter only to learn court reporters' transcripts are passed around and copied for free. I work long hours to get my transcripts out and would appreciate my work to be paid for by anyone who needs those transcripts.

Viviana Figueroa

self - Texas Certified Shorthand Reporter

Grand Prairie, TX

I am a Texas court reporter, and I am in favor of this bill. This bill requires the court reporter to utilize the most current technology available to deliver a digitally secure transcript for the witness to review and is a major step in ensuring that the integrity of the deposition transcript is maintained throughout the process. That is what HB 1737 does, and that is all that it does. With the passage of this bill, the ability to control the transcript, and thus protect its integrity, remains with the court reporter or court reporting firm. These advancements demand that the statute be modernized to reflect the reporter's improved ability to secure the record.

Thank you for your time.

- Viviana Figueroa, CSR

Thomas Crane

Self

San Antonio, TX

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This is a poorly conceived bill. It would allow court reporters to submit to witnesses a transcript for review that lacks the exhibits. In many depositions, the exhibits are part and parcel of the deposition. Court reporters are already generally paid twice or three times for the same transcript. It is much more difficult to review and read an electronic transcript.

Jacqueline Armstrong, Attorney at Law
Self, owner of Armstrong & Associates
Houston, TX

The government should not be meddling in the affairs of the marketplace. Vote NO! Court reporting firms can figure a better method of charging fees for services that provide them operating capital, overhead and profit without the government giving them a free pass to charge for something that is free. Electronic copies. Attorneys who represent low income clients cannot afford the exorbitant fees court reporters charge and pad their bills with. This would provide yet another avenue. Let the market work.

Holly Williams
Self - attorney
Midland, TX

I oppose HB 1737 because a witness should be able to review and copy his or her own deposition without charge. Court reporters are paid by the party noticing the deposition. While I appreciate and support the many court reporters with whom I have worked over the years, many of them work as independent contractors and are paid only a fraction of the amount paid by the parties for the transcripts. Deposition costs are extremely high. The increased use of technology for remote depositions via Zoom and other platforms should have resulted in lower costs, but that has not happened. This bill will unnecessarily increase the costs of litigation.

David Wiley
self / attorney
Dallas, TX

I am an attorney who represents working people in employment matters. When they have been fired from a job for an unlawful reason, these folks cannot regularly afford to pay for court reporting services. Particularly when they are not the ones seeking voluntarily to be deposed. The current rule does not need to be changed in this way. I oppose this bill and am advising people I know to oppose it.

Corinna Chandler
Self, Attorney
Dallas, TX

I am against HB 1737. The proposed changes that would allow court reporters to provide deponents access only to a "secure digital copy" of their deposition for review and signing are unreasonable. A deponent must be given a fair opportunity to review the deponent's deposition transcript to confirm its accuracy and make necessary changes. Many deponents will be unable to access and review a "secure digital copy" either because they lack access to necessary technology, are unfamiliar with necessary technology, or have vision impairments that would make digital review difficult. Court reporters are paid for their time and work by the party taking the deposition, and that payment is sufficient to afford the deponent the opportunity to review a physical copy of the transcript. Furthermore, imposing a fee on a deponent (many of whom are being deposed against their will and many more of whom have no financial interest in the underlying litigation) just so that the deponent can have access to a useable copy of the deposition transcript is unconscionable.

Amanda Hermosillo
Self, Attorney

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Houston, TX

I am opposed to this bill. It unfairly harms plaintiffs and parties to litigation with limited funds, or with little to no access to internet or computer access. Each party should have the opportunity to review their own transcript without paying an extra fee.

Lorna Griffin

Lorna Griffin Law Offices, PLLC

NEW BRAUNFELS, TX

HB 1737

I'm for court reporters being paid and being paid well. But this is just boondoggle stuff — a court reporter is already paid by defense when defense deposes our client. Getting some fee on top of that from our client, who is usually being involuntarily compelled to show and give testimony, is going beyond fair compensation. It's just a shakedown.

Hipolita Lopez, Official Court Reporter - Probate Court 4

Probate Court 4

Houston, TX

I support this!!!

Sincerely,
Hipolita Lopez