

By: Morales of Maverick

H.B. No. 3967

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to accompanying and filming peace officers of the state and local law enforcement agencies for producing a documentary film.

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

SECTION 1. Section 614.231, Government Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 614.231. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

(1) "Documentary film" means a theatrically released nonfiction motion picture dealing creatively with cultural, artistic, historical, social, scientific, economic, or other subjects that may have been photographed in actual occurrence, or may employ partial reenactment, stock footage, stills, animation, stop-motion, or other techniques, as long as the emphasis is on fact and not fiction, including a series of films that may be released in several parts or episodes.

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

(3) [~~(2)~~] "Reality television program" means a nonfictional television program that features the same live subjects over the course of more than one episode primarily for entertainment purposes, but does not include a documentary film or reporting on a matter of public concern by a journalist as defined

1 by Article 38.11, Code of Criminal Procedure.

2 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
3 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
4 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
5 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
6 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.