

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
76R1709 JMC-D

S.B. 409
By: Duncan
Jurisprudence
2/24/1999
As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, the court trying a felony case is authorized to order the jury not to separate, except for housing female and male jurors separately. The Rules of Civil Procedure include language which allows the jury to separate. This bill would authorize a trial judge to permit jurors to separate for meals or other purposes.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 409 permits jurors in a felony case to separate for meals or other purposes.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Article 35.23, Code of Criminal Procedure, to authorize a court in a felony case, to order that the jury not be allowed to separate, except to the extent of permitting jurors to separate for meals or other proper purposes.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1999.
Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.