

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 1654
By: Talton (Brown)
Criminal Justice
5/11/2001
Engrossed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, when law enforcement officers secure arrest warrants for felony suspects who are not in custody, the information related to the identity and the charges are accessible by the public. There have been some instances when parties not associated with the ongoing criminal investigation have contacted or supplied information to others who have contacted the charged suspect and informed them that a warrant has been issued for their arrest. H.B. 1654 disallows the disclosure of public information related to suspects charged with felonies but who are not in custody until the warrant is executed or until after the 30th day that a warrant is filed, whichever is earlier.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

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

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Chapter 15, Code of Criminal Procedure, by adding Article 15.265, as follows:

Art. 15.265. NONDISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN ARREST WARRANTS AND RELATED AFFIDAVITS. Sets forth provisions regarding the disclosure of certain arrest warrants and related information.

SECTION 2. Amends Article 15.26, Code of Criminal Procedure, to amend provisions relating to the public nature of an arrest warrant and related information.

SECTION 3. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2001.