

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 2351
By: Hinojosa (Van de Putte)
Jurisprudence
5/11/2001
Engrossed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Current law does not require the testimony of an undercover officer used to convict a defendant to be corroborated by other evidence. H.B. 2351 provides that a conviction cannot be had on the testimony of an undercover officer or of a person acting covertly on behalf of a law enforcement agency or under the color of law enforcement unless the undercover officer meets certain requirements or there is appropriate corroborating evidence.

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 38, Code of Criminal Procedure, by adding Article 38.141, as follows:

Art. 38.141. TESTIMONY OF UNDERCOVER PEACE OFFICER. Sets forth provisions regarding the testimony of an undercover peace officer and the need for additional corroborating evidence in order to convict a defendant of certain offenses with such testimony under certain conditions.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 2001.