

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

S.B. 329
By: Brown
Criminal Justice
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As Filed

DIGEST

Currently, it is not a criminal offense under the Texas Penal code to give a false statement to a law enforcement employee conducting an investigation if that employee is not a peace officer. This legislation makes it a criminal offense to intentionally give false information to any law enforcement personnel conducting an investigation.

PURPOSE

As proposed, S.B. 329 establishes the offense of making a false report to a peace officer or to an employee of a law enforcement agency.

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 Section 37.08, Penal Code, as follows:

Sec. 37.08. New heading: FALSE REPORT TO PEACE OFFICER OR LAW ENFORCEMENT EMPLOYEE. Provides that a person commits a Class B misdemeanor if, with intent to deceive, the person knowingly makes a false statement that is material to a criminal investigation and makes the statement to a peace officer or any employee of a law enforcement agency that is conducting the investigation.

SECTION 2. Effective date: September 1, 1997.

SECTION 3. Emergency clause.