



**RYAN GUILLEN**  
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TEXAS STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**GUILLEN TO PROTECT PEACE OFFICERS' FAMILIES**  
*HB 457 to Assure Spouse Anonymity Engrossed by House; Goes to Senate*

**AUSTIN** - On **Monday, April 17**, HB 457 was engrossed in the Texas House, and is now awaiting action in the Texas Senate. Texas State Representative Ryan Guillen (D-Rural South Texas) is an author of HB 457, which will protect the anonymity of the spouses and children of peace officers, reducing their risk of being targeted by criminals.

**"Police officers put their lives on the line for each of us every day," said Guillen. "They deserve the peace of mind of knowing their families are not easy targets."**

Currently, police officers are allowed to restrict public access to information about themselves so they can have less fear of retaliation from people who seek to do them harm. Representative Guillen understands how suspects arrested or convicted of a crime may hold malice towards those officers who arrested them. **"Transparency is important within the criminal justice system, but in order to protect law enforcement families from undue retaliation, their personal information must be concealed," Rep. Guillen said.**

**"Transparency in law enforcement has become a hot topic of discussion in recent years, and rightly so," said Guillen. "Undoubtedly, better transparency in the actions of law enforcement allows our judges and juries to make better decisions in criminal cases. However, I can see no benefit or reason for transparency regarding information on peace officers' families."**

HB 457 was received in the Senate on **Tuesday, April 18**. The bill has not yet been assigned to a Senate committee.

Representative Ryan Guillen serves ten rural South Texas counties in the Texas House of Representatives, including Atascosa, Brooks, Duval, Jim Hogg, Kenedy, La Salle, Live Oak, McMullen, Starr, and Willacy.

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