

1-1 By: Hinojosa S.B. No. 1125
 1-2 (In the Senate - Filed February 26, 2019; March 7, 2019,
 1-3 read first time and referred to Committee on Criminal Justice;
 1-4 April 23, 2019, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 5,
 1-5 Nays 1; April 23, 2019, sent to printer.)

1-6 COMMITTEE VOTE

	Yea	Nay	Absent	PNV
1-7 Whitmire	X			
1-8 Huffman		X		
1-9 Buckingham	X			
1-10 Flores	X			
1-11 Hughes			X	
1-12 Miles	X			
1-13 Perry	X			

1-15 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
 1-16 AN ACT

1-17 relating to the use of video teleconferencing for testimony of a
 1-18 forensic analyst in a criminal proceeding.

1-19 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-20 SECTION 1. Chapter 38, Code of Criminal Procedure, is
 1-21 amended by adding Article 38.076 to read as follows:

1-22 Art. 38.076. TESTIMONY OF FORENSIC ANALYST BY VIDEO
 1-23 TELECONFERENCE. (a) In this article, "forensic analyst" has the
 1-24 meaning assigned by Section 4-a, Article 38.01.

1-25 (b) In a proceeding in the prosecution of a criminal offense
 1-26 in which a forensic analyst is required to testify as a witness, any
 1-27 testimony of the witness may be conducted by video teleconferencing
 1-28 in the manner described by Subsection (c) if:

1-29 (1) the use of video teleconferencing is approved by
 1-30 the court after providing notice to all parties;

1-31 (2) the video teleconferencing is coordinated in
 1-32 advance to ensure proper scheduling and equipment compatibility and
 1-33 reliability; and

1-34 (3) a method of electronically transmitting documents
 1-35 related to the proceeding is available at both the location at which
 1-36 the witness is testifying and in the court.

1-37 (c) A video teleconferencing system used under this article
 1-38 must provide an encrypted, simultaneous, compressed full motion
 1-39 video and interactive communication of image and sound between the
 1-40 judge, the attorney representing the state, the attorney
 1-41 representing the defendant, and the witness.

1-42 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.

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