

HB 76 -- DISCLOSURE OF NEWS SOURCES

SPONSOR: McGaugh

This bill prohibits any covered person, as defined in the bill, from being required to disclose, in any federal or state proceeding, the source of any published or unpublished, broadcast or non-broadcast information obtained in the gathering, receiving, or processing of information for any covered person.

An order granting the disclosure of the information must only be issued if the court finds in a written order or in recorded proceedings that the information sought does not involve matters or details necessary in any proceeding and that all other available sources of information have been exhausted, and disclosure of the information is essential to the protection of the public interest involved in the proceedings.

If the court orders that the information be disclosed, it must also order the covered person to disclose the information. The privilege to not disclose the information remains in effect during any appeal process.

This bill is similar to HB 1832 (2016).