



Hundredth Legislature - First Session - 2007
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 465

Chairperson: Brad Ashford
Committee: Judiciary
Date of Hearing: January 31, 2007

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

“Jailhouse informer” is a term of art, embracing “snitches.”

This bill clarifies the scope and intent of the “jailhouse informer” law to make it clear that the term “in custody” applies whether a person is physically in jail or not, and includes a person detained for questioning.

In addition, disclosure must be made of investigations known to the prosecutor or law enforcement authority, to have involved the particular jailhouse informer.

The rationale of the law is that a person in any form of “custody” may be induced by various means to offer testimony that is of questionable reliability, as part of a quid pro quo.

“Snitch” testimony is not prohibited by the law, but specific disclosures, going to credibility, must be made before such testimony is admissible in court.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Ernie Chambers