

By: Thierry

H.B. No. 3726

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to a study on infant mortality and maternal mortality and
3 morbidity in this state.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

5 SECTION 1. (a) In this section, "team" means the state
6 child fatality review team coordinated by the Health and Human
7 Services Commission.

8 (b) The team shall conduct a study on infant mortality and
9 maternal mortality and morbidity in this state. In conducting the
10 study, the team shall:

11 (1) investigate disparities among race and ethnicity,
12 socioeconomic status, and geographic regions in this state;

13 (2) compare maternal mortality and morbidity rates
14 among Black women in this state in relation to maternal mortality
15 and morbidity rates among:

16 (A) each other race and ethnicity; and

17 (B) other women based on socioeconomic status and
18 education level;

19 (3) assess the impact of social determinants of
20 health, including an evaluation of information on
21 pregnancy-related deaths, pregnancy-related complications that
22 almost resulted in death, and morbidities, to identify any
23 correlation in that information to women who are uninsured, receive
24 health coverage under Medicaid, and receive health coverage through

1 a private insurer; and

2 (4) assess the extent to which implicit biases held by
3 health care providers against Black individuals affect maternal
4 mortality and morbidity among Black women.

5 (c) Not later than December 1, 2024, the team shall prepare
6 and submit to the governor, lieutenant governor, and legislature a
7 written report that:

8 (1) summarizes the results of the study conducted
9 under this section; and

10 (2) includes the recommendations based on the results
11 of the study for:

12 (A) reducing infant mortality in this state; and

13 (B) addressing disparities in maternal mortality
14 and morbidity among Black women.

15 SECTION 2. This Act expires December 31, 2024.

16 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
17 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
18 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
19 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
20 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.