

By: LaMantia

S.B. No. 1637

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the prohibited report or disclosure by health care providers of certain health information.

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

SECTION 1. Subtitle H, Title 2, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Chapter 171A to read as follows:

CHAPTER 171A. PROHIBITED REPORT OR DISCLOSURE OF CERTAIN HEALTH INFORMATION

Sec. 171A.001. PROHIBITED REPORT OR DISCLOSURE BY HEALTH CARE PROVIDERS. Notwithstanding any other law, a physician or other health care provider who provides health care services to a patient who experienced a miscarriage or obtained an abortion or who the physician or provider suspects may have experienced a miscarriage or obtained an abortion is prohibited from reporting or disclosing that information to a peace officer or law enforcement agency.

Sec. 171A.002. ENFORCEMENT. The reporting or disclosure of information prohibited under Section 171A.001 by a physician or other health care provider constitutes a violation of Chapter 181 and the physician or provider is subject to enforcement actions under Subchapter E of that chapter, including disciplinary action by the appropriate licensing authority.

Sec. 171A.003. RULES. The executive commissioner may adopt rules to implement this chapter.

1           SECTION 2. Chapter 171A, Health and Safety Code, as added by  
2 this Act, applies only to the report or disclosure of information  
3 described by that chapter that occurs on or after the effective date  
4 of this Act.

5           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2023.