

By: Burnam

H.B. No. 335

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the issuance of a birth certificate for a birth  
3 resulting in stillbirth on request of a parent.

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

5 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 192, Health and Safety  
6 Code, is amended by adding Section 192.0022 to read as follows:

7 Sec. 192.0022. BIRTH CERTIFICATE FOR A BIRTH RESULTING IN  
8 STILLBIRTH. (a) In this section, "stillbirth" means an  
9 unintended, intrauterine fetal death occurring in this state after  
10 a gestational age of not less than twenty completed weeks.

11 (b) A parent may request the bureau of vital statistics to  
12 issue a birth certificate for a birth resulting in stillbirth.

13 (c) A parent may provide a name for a stillborn child on the  
14 request for a birth certificate for a birth resulting in stillbirth  
15 submitted under Subsection (b). The person who prepares the  
16 certificate shall leave blank any references to the stillborn  
17 child's name if the requesting parent does not wish to provide a  
18 name.

19 (d) The department shall prescribe the form and content of a  
20 birth certificate for a birth resulting in stillbirth and shall  
21 specify the information necessary to prepare the certificate.

22 (e) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human  
23 Services Commission may adopt rules necessary to administer this  
24 section.

1           SECTION 2. Not later than the 60th day following the  
2 effective date of this Act, the bureau of vital statistics of the  
3 Department of State Health Services shall prescribe the form and  
4 content of a birth certificate for a birth resulting in stillbirth  
5 as required by Section 192.0022, Health and Safety Code, as added by  
6 this Act.

7           SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.