

By: Corte

H.B. No. 423

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to requiring that medical examiners and justices of the
3 peace report certain deaths that result from a motor vehicle
4 accident to the Texas Department of Public Safety.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 550.081, Transportation Code, is amended
7 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 550.081. [~~CORONER'S~~] REPORT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER OR
9 JUSTICE OF THE PEACE. (a) A medical examiner or justice of the
10 peace acting as coroner in a county that does not have a medical
11 examiner's office or that is not part of a medical examiner's
12 district [other officer performing similar functions] shall submit
13 a [not later than the 10th day of each month.

14 [~~(1)~~] report in writing to the department of the death
15 of a person that was [within the officer's jurisdiction during the
16 preceding calendar month as] the result of a traffic accident to
17 which this chapter applies and that occurred within the
18 jurisdiction of the medical examiner or justice of the peace in the
19 preceding calendar quarter.

20 (b) The [and

21 [~~(2)~~ include in the] report must be submitted before
22 the 11th day of each calendar month and include:

23 (1) the name of the deceased and a statement as to
24 whether the deceased was:

1 (A) the operator of or a passenger in a vehicle
2 involved in the accident; or

3 (B) a pedestrian or other nonoccupant of a
4 vehicle;

5 (2) the date of the accident and the name of the county
6 in which the accident occurred;

7 (3) the name of any laboratory, medical examiner's
8 office, or other facility that conducted toxicological testing
9 relative to the deceased; and

10 (4) the results of any toxicological testing that was
11 conducted [~~the time, place, and circumstances of the accident~~].

12 (c) A report required by this section shall be sent to:

13 (1) the crash records bureau of the department at its
14 headquarters in Austin; or

15 (2) any other office or bureau of the department that
16 the department designates.

17 (d) If toxicological test results are not available to the
18 medical examiner or justice of the peace on the date a report must
19 be submitted, the medical examiner or justice shall:

20 (1) submit a report that includes the statement
21 "toxicological test results unavailable"; and

22 (2) submit a supplement to the report that contains
23 the information required by Subsections (b)(3) and (4) as soon as
24 practicable after the toxicological test results become available.

25 (e) The department shall prepare and when requested supply
26 to medical examiners' offices and justices of the peace the forms
27 necessary to make the reports required by this section.

1 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.