

1-1 By: Corte (Senate Sponsor - Carona) H.B. No. 423  
1-2 (In the Senate - Received from the House March 29, 2007;  
1-3 April 3, 2007, read first time and referred to Committee on  
1-4 Transportation and Homeland Security; April 20, 2007, reported  
1-5 favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; April 20, 2007,  
1-6 sent to printer.)

1-7 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
1-8 AN ACT

1-9 relating to requiring that medical examiners and justices of the  
1-10 peace report certain deaths that result from a motor vehicle  
1-11 accident to the Texas Department of Public Safety.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Section 550.081, Transportation Code, is amended  
1-14 to read as follows:

1-15 Sec. 550.081. [CORONER'S] REPORT OF MEDICAL EXAMINER OR  
1-16 JUSTICE OF THE PEACE. (a) A medical examiner or justice of the  
1-17 peace acting as coroner in a county that does not have a medical  
1-18 examiner's office or that is not part of a medical examiner's  
1-19 district [other officer performing similar functions] shall submit  
1-20 a [not later than the 10th day of each month.

1-21 [~~(1)~~] report in writing to the department of the death  
1-22 of a person that was [within the officer's jurisdiction during the  
1-23 preceding calendar month as] the result of a traffic accident to  
1-24 which this chapter applies and that occurred within the  
1-25 jurisdiction of the medical examiner or justice of the peace in the  
1-26 preceding calendar quarter.

1-27 (b) The [~~;~~ and  
1-28 [~~(2)~~ include in the] report must be submitted before  
1-29 the 11th day of each calendar month and include:

1-30 (1) the name of the deceased and a statement as to  
1-31 whether the deceased was:

1-32 (A) the operator of or a passenger in a vehicle  
1-33 involved in the accident; or

1-34 (B) a pedestrian or other nonoccupant of a  
1-35 vehicle;

1-36 (2) the date of the accident and the name of the county  
1-37 in which the accident occurred;

1-38 (3) the name of any laboratory, medical examiner's  
1-39 office, or other facility that conducted toxicological testing  
1-40 relative to the deceased; and

1-41 (4) the results of any toxicological testing that was  
1-42 conducted [the time, place, and circumstances of the accident].

1-43 (c) A report required by this section shall be sent to:

1-44 (1) the crash records bureau of the department at its  
1-45 headquarters in Austin; or

1-46 (2) any other office or bureau of the department that  
1-47 the department designates.

1-48 (d) If toxicological test results are not available to the  
1-49 medical examiner or justice of the peace on the date a report must  
1-50 be submitted, the medical examiner or justice shall:

1-51 (1) submit a report that includes the statement  
1-52 "toxicological test results unavailable"; and

1-53 (2) submit a supplement to the report that contains  
1-54 the information required by Subsections (b)(3) and (4) as soon as  
1-55 practicable after the toxicological test results become available.

1-56 (e) The department shall prepare and when requested supply  
1-57 to medical examiners' offices and justices of the peace the forms  
1-58 necessary to make the reports required by this section.

1-59 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.

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