

By: Farrar

H.B. No. 1704

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to providing information and other services relating to emergency contraception to sexual assault survivors.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 323, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Sections 323.0051 and 323.0052 to read as follows:

Sec. 323.0051. EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTIVE INFORMATION. (a)

The department shall develop a standard information form for sexual assault survivors that includes information regarding emergency contraception.

(b) Emergency contraception information contained in the form must be medically and factually accurate and unbiased. The department may use appropriate medical organizations and associations, including the American Congress of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, as resources in developing the form.

(c) The information form shall be published in:

(1) an easily comprehensible form; and

(2) a typeface large enough to be clearly legible.

(d) The department shall annually review the information form to determine if changes to the contents of the form are necessary.

(e) A health care facility shall use the standard form developed under this section.

Sec. 323.0052. EMERGENCY SERVICES RELATING TO EMERGENCY

1 CONTRACEPTION. In addition to the other services and information  
2 required under this chapter, after a sexual assault survivor  
3 arrives at a health care facility for emergency care following an  
4 alleged sexual assault, the facility shall:

5 (1) provide the sexual assault survivor with the  
6 information form required under Section 323.0051;

7 (2) orally communicate to the sexual assault survivor  
8 the information regarding emergency contraception contained in the  
9 information form provided under Subdivision (1);

10 (3) if indicated by the history of contact, orally  
11 inform the sexual assault survivor that the survivor may request  
12 and be provided with emergency contraception at the facility; and

13 (4) if not medically contraindicated and if the  
14 survivor agrees to submit to a pregnancy test and that pregnancy  
15 test produces a negative result, provide the sexual assault  
16 survivor with emergency contraception immediately on request of the  
17 survivor.

18 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2013.