

By: Ortega

H.B. No. 247

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to pregnancy information on death certificates.

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

SECTION 1. Section 193.001, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subsection (a-2) to read as follows:

(a-2) In prescribing the form and contents of death certificates, the department shall require each death certificate to indicate whether a female decedent was pregnant at the time of death or was pregnant at any time in the year preceding the decedent's death.

SECTION 2. Not later than March 1, 2018, the Department of State Health Services shall revise and make available the forms required by Section 193.001, Health and Safety Code, as amended by this Act.

SECTION 3. The changes in law made by this Act apply only to a death certificate filed on or after April 1, 2018.

SECTION 4. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this Act takes effect on the 91st day after the last day of the legislative session.