

By: Ortega

H.B. No. 305

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the screening of certain women for substance use and postpartum depression.

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

SECTION 1. Chapter 32, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Subchapter E to read as follows:

SUBCHAPTER E. SUBSTANCE USE AND POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION SCREENING

Sec. 32.081. SUBSTANCE USE AND POSTPARTUM DEPRESSION SCREENING OF CERTAIN WOMEN. (a) A physician or other person authorized by law to attend a pregnant woman or woman who has been pregnant at any time during the preceding year shall screen the woman for substance use and postpartum depression.

(b) The commission shall make available to physicians and other persons required to conduct a screening under Subsection (a) information that includes:

(1) guidance regarding the process for verbally screening a pregnant woman for substance use or a woman who has been pregnant for postpartum depression using a standardized and validated screening tool; and

(2) a list of substance use and postpartum depression treatment resources in each geographic region of this state.

(c) A physician or other person described by Subsection (a) is not required to comply with that subsection if the physician or other person determines compliance is not possible or would

1 otherwise be inappropriate.

2           SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
3 of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human  
4 Services Commission shall adopt rules necessary to implement the  
5 changes in law made by this Act.

6           SECTION 3. (a) Not later than June 1, 2018, the Health and  
7 Human Services Commission shall make the information described by  
8 Section 32.081, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act,  
9 available to physicians and other persons authorized by law to  
10 attend a pregnant woman or a woman who has been pregnant at any time  
11 during the preceding year.

12           (b) A physician or other person described by Subsection (a)  
13 of this section is not required to conduct the screenings described  
14 by Section 32.081, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act,  
15 before December 1, 2018.

16           SECTION 4. This Act takes effect on the 91st day after the  
17 last day of the legislative session.