

By: Farrar

H.B. No. 247

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the provision of 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 323.0052 and 323.0053 to read as follows:

Sec. 323.0052. EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION 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 information 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 department shall ensure the emergency contraception information is published in:

(1) an easily comprehensible form; and

(2) a large, clearly legible typeface.

(d) The department shall annually review the information form to determine whether content changes are necessary.

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

Sec. 323.0053. EMERGENCY SERVICES RELATING TO EMERGENCY

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

5 (1) provide the survivor with the information form
6 required under Section 323.0052;

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

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

13 (4) if not medically contraindicated and if the
14 survivor agrees to submit to a pregnancy test that produces a
15 negative result, dispense emergency contraception to the survivor
16 immediately on the survivor's request.

17 (b) Subsections (a)(3) and (4) do not apply to a health care
18 facility that does not dispense emergency contraception.

19 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.