

By: White, Ramos

H.B. No. 2701

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to county jailer training and continuing education
3 requirements regarding interacting with pregnant women confined in
4 jail.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter F, Chapter 1701, Occupations Code, is
7 amended by adding Section 1701.269 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 1701.269. TRAINING PROGRAM RELATING TO COUNTY JAILER
9 INTERACTIONS WITH PREGNANT WOMEN. The commission shall develop a
10 training program for county jailers that consists of education and
11 training concerning interacting with a pregnant woman confined in a
12 county jail. The program must be based on obstetrical and
13 gynecological best practices and include general information on:

- 14 (1) pregnancy, labor, delivery, and recovery;
15 (2) identifying when a woman is in labor;
16 (3) appropriate prenatal and postnatal care and first
17 aid techniques specific to pregnant women; and
18 (4) factors that increase the risk of a miscarriage.

19 SECTION 2. Section 1701.310(a), Occupations Code, is
20 amended to read as follows:

21 (a) Except as provided by Subsection (e), a person may not
22 be appointed as a county jailer, except on a temporary basis, unless
23 the person has satisfactorily completed a preparatory training
24 program, as required by the commission, in the operation of a county

1 jail at a school operated or licensed by the commission. The
2 training program must:

3 (1) consist of at least eight hours of mental health
4 training approved by the commission and the Commission on Jail
5 Standards; and

6 (2) include the training program developed under
7 Section 1701.269.

8 SECTION 3. Section 1701.352, Occupations Code, is amended
9 by adding Subsection (b-1) to read as follows:

10 (b-1) The commission shall require a county that appoints or
11 employs a county jailer to provide each jailer with the training
12 program developed under Section 1701.269 at least once every 48
13 months. The training must be provided by a medical professional.

14 SECTION 4. Section 1701.310(a), Occupations Code, as
15 amended by this Act, applies only to a person appointed as a county
16 jailer on or after January 1, 2020. A person appointed as a county
17 jailer before January 1, 2020, is governed by the law in effect
18 immediately before the effective date of this Act, and the former
19 law is continued in effect for that purpose.

20 SECTION 5. As soon as practicable after the effective date
21 of this Act, the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement shall:

22 (1) develop the training program required by Section
23 1701.269, Occupations Code, as added by this Act; and

24 (2) adopt rules necessary to implement Section
25 1701.352(b-1), Occupations Code, as added by this Act.

26 SECTION 6. This Act takes effect September 1, 2019.