

By: White

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. Chapter 511, Government Code, is amended by  
7 adding Section 511.00906 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 511.00906. TRAINING PROGRAM REGARDING PREGNANT  
9 PRISONERS. The commission shall adopt a training program for  
10 county jailers that consists of education and training concerning  
11 interacting with pregnant prisoners. The program must be based on  
12 obstetrical and gynecological best practices and include general  
13 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 training concerning interacting with  
7 pregnant women confined in jail based on the program adopted under  
8 Section 511.00906, Government Code.

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

11 (b-1) The commission shall require a county that appoints or  
12 employs a county jailer to provide each jailer with the training  
13 program adopted under Section 511.00906, Government Code, at least  
14 once every 48 months. The training must be provided by a medical  
15 professional.

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

22 SECTION 5. As soon as practicable after the effective date  
23 of this Act:

24 (1) the Commission on Jail Standards shall adopt the  
25 training program required by Section 511.00906, Government Code, as  
26 added by this Act; and

27 (2) the Texas Commission on Law Enforcement shall

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1 adopt rules necessary to implement Section [1701.352\(b-1\)](#),  
2 Occupations Code, as added by this Act.

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