By:  Bell of Kaufman (Senate Sponsor - Johnson) H.B. No. 4295

(In the Senate - Received from the House May 10, 2021; May 12, 2021, read first time and referred to Committee on Health & Human Services; May 21, 2021, reported favorably by the following vote: Yeas 9, Nays 0; May 21, 2021, sent to printer.)

COMMITTEE VOTE

                 Yea Nay Absent  PNV

Kolkhorst         X

Perry             X

Blanco            X

Buckingham        X

Campbell          X

Hall              X

Miles             X

Powell            X

Seliger           X

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authorized release and confidentiality of an autopsy report.

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

SECTION 1.  Section 11, Article 49.25, Code of Criminal Procedure, is amended by adding Subsection (c) to read as follows:

(c)  The medical examiner may release a copy of an autopsy report of a deceased person to any organ and tissue procurement organization, hospital, or other covered entity as defined by Section 181.001, Health and Safety Code, that treated the deceased person before death or procured any anatomical gift from the body of the deceased person. The release of a report under this subsection is not considered a disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code. A report obtained under this subsection is confidential and not subject to disclosure under Chapter 552, Government Code.

SECTION 2.  This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.

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