

By: Menéndez

S.B. No. 806

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the care of pregnant women in county jail or in the custody of the Texas Department of Criminal Justice.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter B, Chapter 501, Government Code, is amended by adding Section 501.0668 to read as follows:

Sec. 501.0668. DUTIES FOLLOWING MISCARRIAGE OR PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL ABUSE OF PREGNANT INMATE. As soon as practicable after receiving a report of a miscarriage or physical or sexual abuse of a pregnant inmate, the department shall ensure that an appropriate health care professional promptly:

(1) reviews the health care services provided to the inmate; and

(2) orders additional health care services, including mental health services, as the health care professional considers appropriate.

SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 351, Local Government Code, is amended by adding Section 351.048 to read as follows:

Sec. 351.048. DUTIES FOLLOWING MISCARRIAGE OR PHYSICAL OR SEXUAL ABUSE OF PREGNANT PRISONER. As soon as practicable after receiving a report of a miscarriage or physical or sexual abuse of a pregnant prisoner while in the custody of a county jail, the sheriff shall ensure that an appropriate health care professional promptly:

(1) reviews the health care services provided to the

1 prisoner; and

2 (2) orders additional health care services, including
3 mental health services, as the health care professional considers
4 appropriate.

5 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2021.