

By: Parker

S.B. No. 1406

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to persons with the authority to donate a body to certain entities for the advancement of medical or forensic science.

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

SECTION 1. Section 691.023(a), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) An officer, employee, or representative of the state, of a political subdivision, or of an institution having charge or control of a body not claimed for burial or a body required to be buried at public expense shall:

(1) notify the commission or the commission's representative of the body's existence when the body comes into the person's possession, charge, or control if notified in writing to do so by the commission or the commission's representative; and

(2) deliver the body in accordance with the direction of the commission[~~, and~~

~~[(3) allow the commission, the commission's representative, or a physician designated by the commission who complies with this chapter to remove the body to be used for the advancement of medical or forensic science].~~

SECTION 2. Subchapter B, Chapter 691, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 691.0235 to read as follows:

Sec. 691.0235. PERSONS WITH AUTHORITY TO DONATE BODY FOR ADVANCEMENT OF MEDICAL OR FORENSIC SCIENCE. (a) Notwithstanding

1 any other provision of this chapter, and subject to Subsections (b)  
2 and (c), a person may not donate a body not claimed for burial or a  
3 body required to be buried at public expense to a willed body  
4 program of a medical or dental school, a non-transplant anatomical  
5 donation organization, or another donee authorized by the  
6 commission to be used for the advancement of medical or forensic  
7 science.

8 (b) A decedent's body may be donated to an entity described  
9 by Subsection (a) by will or other written instrument in accordance  
10 with Section [691.028](#).

11 (c) A person who may lawfully claim a decedent's body for  
12 burial under Section [691.024](#) may provide informed consent for the  
13 body to be donated to an entity described by Subsection (a).

14 (d) The commission shall adopt rules necessary to implement  
15 this section.

16 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2025.