BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center

H.B. 723 By: Patterson et al. (Paxton) Health & Human Services 4/16/2021 Engrossed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Currently, there is no law that requires the next of kin to be notified when a family member's cause of death on their death certificate is changed. H.B. 723 requires that the next of kin be contacted when the cause of death on a loved one's death certificate is amended.

H.B. 723 amends current law relating to notice of a modification to the medical certification information on certain death certificates.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Authorizes this Act to be cited as Marilyn's Law.

SECTION 2. Amends Chapter 193, Health and Safety Code, by adding Section 193.012, as follows:

Sec. 193.012. NOTICE OF CERTAIN DEATH CERTIFICATE AMENDMENTS. Requires a person who submits to the Department of State Health Services (DSHS) a request for an amendment to modify the medical certification information on the certificate, for a death certificate that is not a pending death certificate, to provide in the manner prescribed by DSHS written notice of the modification to a decedent's next of kin.

SECTION 3. Makes application of this Act prospective.

SECTION 4. Effective date: September 1, 2021.