

- SUBJECT:** Providing embryo donation information
- COMMITTEE:** Public Health — favorable, without amendment
- VOTE:** 10 ayes — Price, Sheffield, Arévalo, Burkett, Coleman, Collier, Cortez, Klick, Oliverson, Zedler
- 0 nays
- 1 absent — Guerra
- WITNESSES:** For — Daniel Nehrbass, Nightlight Adoptions; Kyleen Wright, Texans for Life; Joe Pojman, Texas Alliance for Life; (*Registered, but did not testify*: Ann Hettinger, Center for the Preservation of American Ideals)
- Against — (*Registered, but did not testify*: Ashlee Cook)
- On — (*Registered, but did not testify*: John Seago, Texas Right to Life)
- BACKGROUND:** Family Code, sec. 160.102 defines assisted reproduction to include intrauterine insemination, donation of eggs, donation of embryos, in vitro fertilization and transfer of embryos, and intracytoplasmic sperm injection.
- Observers note that with the use of fertility treatment therapies on the rise, it is typical with such treatments for multiple embryos to be fertilized and frozen, with unused embryos remaining after therapy. Some have suggested that more information should be available about embryo donation.
- DIGEST:** HB 785 would require a physician performing an assisted reproduction procedure that involved the creation of a human embryo to inform the patient of the option of embryo donation for any unused human embryos.
- The Department of Family and Protective Services would be required to post information about embryo donation on its website, including contact

information for nonprofit organizations that facilitate embryo donation.

This bill would take effect September 1, 2017.