

By: Canales

H.B. No. 1823

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to properly recorded diacritical marks in vital statistics
3 records, driver's licenses, commercial driver's licenses, and
4 personal identification certificates.

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

6 SECTION 1. Subchapter A, Chapter 191, Health and Safety
7 Code, is amended by adding Section 191.009 to read as follows:

8 Sec. 191.009. USE OF DIACRITICAL MARKS. (a) In this
9 section, "diacritical mark" means a mark used in Latin script to
10 change the sound of the letter to which it is added or used to
11 distinguish the meaning of the word in which the letter appears.
12 The term includes accents, tildes, graves, umlauts, and cedillas.

13 (b) The state registrar shall ensure that a vital statistics
14 record issued under this title properly records any diacritical
15 mark used in a person's name.

16 SECTION 2. Subchapter F, Chapter 521, Transportation Code,
17 is amended by adding Section 521.127 to read as follows:

18 Sec. 521.127. USE OF DIACRITICAL MARKS. (a) In this
19 section, "diacritical mark" means a mark used in Latin script to
20 change the sound of a letter to which it is added or used to
21 distinguish the meaning of the word in which the letter appears.
22 The term includes accents, tildes, graves, umlauts, and cedillas.

23 (b) The department shall ensure that an original or renewal
24 driver's license or personal identification certificate issued

1 under this chapter properly records any diacritical mark used in a
2 person's name.

3 SECTION 3. Section 522.030, Transportation Code, is amended
4 by adding Subsection (d) to read as follows:

5 (d) The department shall ensure that an original or renewal
6 commercial driver's license or commercial learner's permit issued
7 under this chapter properly records any diacritical mark used in a
8 person's name. In this subsection, "diacritical mark" means a mark
9 used in Latin script to change the sound of a letter to which it is
10 added or used to distinguish the meaning of the word in which the
11 letter appears. The term includes accents, tildes, graves,
12 umlauts, and cedillas.

13 SECTION 4. The change in law made by this Act applies only
14 to a vital statistics record issued by the Department of State
15 Health Services vital statistics unit or a driver's license,
16 personal identification certificate, or commercial driver's
17 license or learner's permit issued or renewed by the Texas
18 Department of Public Safety on or after September 1, 2018.

19 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.