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Senator Lucio files bill to encourage adoption

AUSTIN - Today (Tuesday), Senator Eddie Lucio, Jr. (D-Brownsville) filed a bill intended to encourage adoption. The bill provides for a free adoption education course to be completed when seeking an abortion.

"It is my hope that, when presented with more information on adoption resources and services available, more pregnancies can be carried to term," Senator Lucio said. "I am fully aware that this bill, filed on the last day of the second special legislative session, will not immediately pass; however, I intend to continue advocating adoption as an alternative."

[Senate Bill 42](#) would require the state's Health and Human Services Commission (HHSC) to develop a three-hour course on the option to place a child for adoption. The course must be made available online.

Under the bill, an abortion is performed after the adoption education course is completed and a certificate of completion is issued to a physician. The course's certificate of completion will be created by HHSC. This course must be completed between 30 days and 24 hours before receiving services. The bill includes exceptions for life of the mother, and for minors who are victims of rape or incest.

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