

By: Delisi

H.B. No. 2471

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1 AN ACT

2 relating to authorizing the Department of State Health Services to
3 issue a single license for multiple hospitals.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 241.023, Health and Safety Code, is
6 amended by amending Subsection (c) and adding Subsection (c-1) to
7 read as follows:

8 (c) Except as provided by Subsection (c-1), the [The]
9 department may issue a license only for the premises of a hospital
10 and person or governmental unit named in the application.

11 (c-1) The department may issue one license for multiple
12 hospitals if:

13 (1) all buildings in which inpatients receive hospital
14 services and inpatient services of each of the hospitals to be
15 included in the license are subject to the control and direction of
16 the same governing body;

17 (2) all buildings in which inpatients receive hospital
18 services are within a 30-mile radius of the main address of the
19 applicant;

20 (3) there is integration of the organized medical
21 staff of each of the hospitals to be included in the license;

22 (4) there is a single chief executive officer for all
23 of the hospitals who reports directly to the governing body and
24 through whom all administrative authority flows and who exercises

1 control and surveillance over all administrative activities of the
2 hospital;

3 (5) each hospital to be included in the license has a
4 single chief medical officer who reports directly to the governing
5 body and who is responsible for all medical staff activities of the
6 hospital;

7 (6) each building of a hospital to be included in the
8 license that is geographically separate from other buildings of the
9 same hospital contains at least one nursing unit for inpatients,
10 unless providing only diagnostic or laboratory services, or a
11 combination of diagnostic or laboratory services, in the building
12 for hospital inpatients; and

13 (7) each hospital that is to be included in the license
14 is in compliance with any emergency services regulations issued by
15 the department unless it is a hospital located not more than three
16 miles away from another hospital that:

17 (A) is to be included in the same license; and

18 (B) maintains an emergency department.

19 SECTION 2. Section 241.003(14), Health and Safety Code, is
20 repealed.

21 SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act applies only
22 to an application for a license submitted on or after the effective
23 date of this Act. An application for a license submitted before the
24 effective date of this Act is covered by the law in effect on the
25 date the application was submitted, and the former law is continued
26 in effect for that purpose.

27 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.