

By: Madla

S.B. No. 520

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the provision of health care services by a physician assistant during an emergency or a disaster.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter E, Chapter 204, Occupations Code, is amended by adding Section 204.2045 to read as follows:

Sec. 204.2045. SERVICES PERFORMED DURING DISASTER.

(a) The supervision and delegation requirements of this chapter and Subtitle B do not apply to medical tasks performed by a physician assistant during an emergency or a disaster under the state emergency management plan adopted under Section 418.042, Government Code, or a disaster declared by the governor or United States government. This section does not apply to medical tasks performed by a physician assistant for compensation or other remuneration.

(b) A physician assistant performing medical tasks under this section is entitled to the immunity from liability provided by Section 74.151, Civil Practice and Remedies Code.

(c) A physician assistant may perform tasks described by this section:

(1) under the supervision of any physician who is also performing volunteer work in the emergency or disaster; or

(2) without the supervision of a physician, if a physician is not available to provide supervision.

1 (d) A physician assistant employed by the United States
2 government or licensed in another state may perform medical tasks
3 in this state in circumstances described by Subsection (a) without
4 holding a license in this state.

5 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
6 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
7 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
8 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
9 Act takes effect September 1, 2005.