

AN ACT

relating to exemptions from the law governing emergency medical services for certain transfer vehicles and staff and to the minimum qualifications for obtaining an emergency medical services provider license.

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

SECTION 1. Subsection (a), Section 773.004, Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(a) This chapter does not apply to:

(1) a ground transfer vehicle and staff used to transport a patient who is under a physician's care between medical facilities or between a medical facility and a private residence, unless it is medically necessary to transport the patient using a stretcher;

(2) [~~ground or~~] air transfer that does not advertise as an ambulance service and that is not licensed by the department;

(3) the use of ground or air transfer vehicles to transport sick or injured persons in a casualty situation that exceeds the basic vehicular capacity or capability of emergency medical services providers in the area;

(4) an industrial ambulance; or

(5) a physician, registered nurse, or other health care practitioner licensed by this state unless the health care practitioner staffs an emergency medical services vehicle

1 regularly.

2 SECTION 2. Section 773.042, Health and Safety Code, is
3 amended to read as follows:

4 Sec. 773.042. BASIC LIFE-SUPPORT EMERGENCY MEDICAL
5 SERVICES PROVIDER QUALIFICATIONS. A provider qualifies as a basic
6 life-support emergency medical services provider if it provides a
7 vehicle that is designed for transporting the sick or injured,
8 ~~and~~ has personnel and sufficient equipment and supplies for
9 providing basic life support, and is capable of providing emergency
10 and nonemergency transportation.

11 SECTION 3. Section 773.057, Health and Safety Code, is
12 amended by adding Subsection (e) to read as follows:

13 (e) In addition to any other qualifications that an
14 emergency medical services provider must possess to obtain the type
15 of license sought, all emergency medical services providers must
16 possess the qualifications required for a basic emergency medical
17 services provider under Section 773.042.

18 SECTION 4. (a) A person or vehicle that becomes subject to
19 Chapter 773, Health and Safety Code, and rules adopted under that
20 law as a result of the changes in law made by this Act is not
21 required to comply with Chapter 773 and applicable rules before
22 June 1, 2006.

23 (b) A person who is a licensed emergency medical services
24 provider immediately before the effective date of this Act must
25 meet the requirements of Section 773.042, Health and Safety Code,
26 as amended by this Act, on renewing the license.

27 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

President of the Senate

Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 521 passed the Senate on March 31, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 30, Nays 0.

Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 521 passed the House on May 25, 2005, by a non-record vote.

Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

Date

Governor