

By: Shapleigh

S.B. No. 151

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the immigration status or nationality of a person
needing or receiving certain emergency services.

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

SECTION 1. The heading to Section 311.022, Health and
Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 311.022. ~~DISCRIMINATION PROHIBITED [IN DENIAL OF
SERVICES]~~; CRIMINAL PENALTIES.

SECTION 2. Section 311.022, Health and Safety Code, is
amended by adding Subsection (c-1) to read as follows:

(c-1) An officer, employee, or medical staff member of a
general hospital may not inquire as to the immigration status or
nationality of a person who needs or receives emergency services,
unless the information is necessary to provide those services to
the person.

SECTION 3. Subchapter A, Chapter 773, Health and Safety
Code, is amended by adding Section 773.016 to read as follows:

Sec. 773.016. REQUEST FOR CERTAIN INFORMATION PROHIBITED.

(a) Emergency medical services personnel, physicians, or emergency
room admissions personnel may not inquire as to the immigration
status or nationality of a patient who needs or receives emergency
medical services unless the information is necessary to provide
those services to the patient.

(b) The privilege of confidentiality under Section 773.091

1 extends to any information regarding the immigration status or
2 nationality of a patient who needs or receives emergency medical
3 services.

4 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2007.