

By: Zaffirini

S.B. No. 1248

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

1
2 relating to the reimbursement rate for certain ambulance services
3 provided under the medical assistance program.

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

5 SECTION 1. Section 32.028, Human Resources Code, is amended
6 by adding Subsection (r) to read as follows:

7 (r) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human
8 Services Commission by rule shall establish reimbursement rates for
9 ground ambulance services provided under the medical assistance
10 program that are not less than the reimbursement rates established
11 by the federal Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services for
12 similar services covered by the federal Medicare program that were
13 in effect on January 1, 2009. In establishing the rates, the
14 executive commissioner shall stratify the rates in accordance with
15 levels of ambulance services provided in a manner similar to the
16 stratification under the Medicare program.

17 SECTION 2. If before implementing any provision of this Act
18 a state agency determines that a waiver or authorization from a
19 federal agency is necessary for implementation of that provision,
20 the agency affected by the provision shall request the waiver or
21 authorization and may delay implementing that provision until the
22 waiver or authorization is granted.

23 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2009.