

1-1 By: Uresti S.B. No. 2081
1-2 (In the Senate - Filed March 13, 2009; March 31, 2009, read
1-3 first time and referred to Committee on Intergovernmental
1-4 Relations; April 21, 2009, reported adversely, with favorable
1-5 Committee Substitute by the following vote: Yeas 5, Nays 0;
1-6 April 21, 2009, sent to printer.)

1-7 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR S.B. No. 2081 By: Gallegos

1-8 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
1-9 AN ACT

1-10 relating to reports regarding the provision of emergency ground
1-11 ambulance services in counties.

1-12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

1-13 SECTION 1. Chapter 774, Health and Safety Code, is amended
1-14 by adding Section 774.005 to read as follows:

1-15 Sec. 774.005. COUNTY SELF-ASSESSMENT OF PROVISION OF
1-16 EMERGENCY GROUND AMBULANCE SERVICES. (a) Each county shall
1-17 assess the emergency ground ambulance services provided in that
1-18 county from all sources that respond to 9-1-1 or other emergency
1-19 calls and provide primary emergency response.

1-20 (b) The executive commissioner of the Health and Human
1-21 Services Commission, in consultation with the commissioner of state
1-22 health services, shall adopt rules governing the self-assessment
1-23 required by this section. At minimum, the rules must require each
1-24 county, in the county's self-assessment, to address:

1-25 (1) the minimum training, licensing, or certification
1-26 of ambulance personnel;

1-27 (2) the staffing of ambulances in the county;

1-28 (3) the types of vehicles used as ambulances in the
1-29 county;

1-30 (4) the type of advanced life support or basic life
1-31 support, as defined by Section 773.003, that ambulance personnel
1-32 provide;

1-33 (5) the local deployment plan for ground ambulance
1-34 services; and

1-35 (6) other information determined by the executive
1-36 commissioner as necessary for inclusion in the county's
1-37 self-assessment of emergency ground ambulance services.

1-38 (c) A county or municipality may establish reporting
1-39 standards for emergency ground ambulance services that are stricter
1-40 than those adopted under this section.

1-41 (d) A county may adopt an order requiring all ambulance
1-42 providers that respond to 9-1-1 or other emergency calls in the
1-43 county and provide primary emergency response to submit to the
1-44 county information to enable the county to comply with this
1-45 section.

1-46 (e) A county, emergency services district, or other entity
1-47 may operate an emergency ground ambulance service that is operated
1-48 in accordance with federal laws, the laws of this state, and other
1-49 state and local rules.

1-50 (f) Not later than March 1 of each year, each county shall
1-51 publish a report on the availability of emergency ground ambulance
1-52 services within the county during the previous calendar year based
1-53 on the county's self-assessment using factors adopted by the
1-54 executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission
1-55 under Subsection (b) or by the county under Subsection (c). The
1-56 county shall provide the report to the Department of State Health
1-57 Services, make the report available on the county's Internet
1-58 website, and annually publish a summary of the report, together
1-59 with the address of the website containing the report, in a
1-60 newspaper of general circulation in the county. If the county does
1-61 not operate a website, the county shall publish the report annually
1-62 in a newspaper of general circulation in the county.

1-63 SECTION 2. (a) The executive commissioner of the Health

2-1 and Human Services Commission, in consultation with the
2-2 commissioner of state health services, shall adopt rules as
2-3 required by Section 774.005, Health and Safety Code, as added by
2-4 this Act, not later than January 1, 2010.

2-5 (b) Notwithstanding Subsection (f), Section 774.005, Health
2-6 and Safety Code, as added by this Act, a county is not required to
2-7 publish a report as required by that subsection before March 1,
2-8 2011.

2-9 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
2-10 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
2-11 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
2-12 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
2-13 Act takes effect September 1, 2009.

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