

By: Martinez, Springer, Guillen

H.B. No. 2020

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the scope of duties of an emergency medical technician-paramedic and a licensed paramedic.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 773, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 773.0496 to read as follows:

Sec. 773.0496. SCOPE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN-PARAMEDIC AND LICENSED PARAMEDIC DUTIES. (a) In this section:

(1) "Advanced life support" means health care provided to sustain life in an emergency, life-threatening situation. The term includes the initiation of intravenous therapy, endotracheal or esophageal intubation, electrical cardiac defibrillation or cardioversion, and drug therapy procedures.

(2) "Direct supervision" means supervision of an emergency medical technician-paramedic or licensed paramedic by a licensed physician who is present in the same area or an area adjacent to the area where an emergency medical technician-paramedic or licensed paramedic performs a procedure and who is immediately available to provide assistance and direction during the performance of the procedure.

(b) Notwithstanding other law, a person who is certified under this chapter as an emergency medical technician-paramedic or a licensed paramedic, is acting under the delegation and direct

1 supervision of a licensed physician, and is authorized to provide
2 advanced life support by a health care facility may in accordance
3 with department rules provide advanced life support in the
4 facility's emergency or urgent care clinical setting, including a
5 hospital emergency room and a freestanding emergency medical care
6 facility.

7 SECTION 2. As soon as practicable after the effective date
8 of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human
9 Services Commission shall adopt any rules necessary to implement
10 Section 773.0496, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

11 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
12 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
13 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
14 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
15 Act takes effect September 1, 2015.