

By: Sheffield

H.B. No. 1978

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to physician assistant services performed as volunteer care.

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

SECTION 1. Section 204.2045, Occupations Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 204.2045. VOLUNTEER CARE AND SERVICES PERFORMED DURING DISASTER. (a) The supervision and delegation requirements of this chapter and Subtitle B do not apply to medical tasks performed by a physician assistant:

(1) during a disaster under the state emergency management plan adopted under Section 418.042, Government Code;

(2) during [~~7-01~~] a disaster declared by the governor or United States government; or

(3) as a volunteer for a charitable organization or at a public or private event, including a religious event, sporting event, community event, or health fair.

(a-1) This section does not apply to medical tasks performed by a physician assistant for compensation or other remuneration.

(b) A physician assistant performing medical tasks under this section:

(1) is entitled to the immunity from liability provided by Section 74.151, Civil Practice and Remedies Code; and

(2) is acting within the scope of the physician

1 assistant's license for purposes of immunity under Section
2 84.004(c), Civil Practice and Remedies Code.

3 (c) A physician assistant may perform tasks described by
4 this section:

5 (1) under the supervision of any physician who is also
6 performing volunteer work in the disaster, for the charitable
7 organization, or at the public or private event; or

8 (2) without the supervision of a physician, if a
9 physician is not available to provide supervision.

10 (d) A physician assistant employed by the United States
11 government or licensed in another state may perform medical tasks
12 in this state in circumstances described by Subsection (a) without
13 holding a license in this state.

14 SECTION 2. Section 204.2045, Occupations Code, as amended
15 by this Act, applies only to services performed on or after the
16 effective date of this Act. Services performed before that date are
17 governed by the law in effect on the date the services were
18 performed, and the former law is continued in effect for that
19 purpose.

20 SECTION 3. This Act takes effect September 1, 2017.