

By: White, Cortez, Oliverson, et al.

H.B. No. 639

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to the authority of an emergency services district to provide preventive health care services; authorizing a fee.

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

SECTION 1. Subchapter C, Chapter 775, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Section 775.0311 to read as follows:

Sec. 775.0311. PREVENTIVE HEALTH CARE SERVICES. (a) This section applies to a district that is licensed as or contracts with:

(1) an emergency medical services provider under Chapter 773; or

(2) a first responder organization under Chapter 773.

(b) In this section, "preventive health care services" means out-of-hospital routine health care services, including immunizations, screenings, checkups, and patient counseling, provided for the purpose of preventing illness, disease, or other health problems.

(c) If approved by the commissioners court of each county in which a district is located, the district may provide preventive health care services to reduce reliance on 9-1-1 transports and systems for routine health care, contract with the state or a local government, as provided by Section 775.0366, to provide those services, and charge a reasonable fee for performing those services for or on behalf of a person or entity, as provided by Section 775.040.

1 (d) A reference in this chapter to the district providing
2 emergency services includes preventive health care services.

3 (e) A district may make necessary improvements and adopt
4 rules and regulations for the purposes of this section.

5 (f) A district in a county with a population of less than
6 60,000 must obtain approval from the county commissioners court
7 prior to providing services under this section.

8 SECTION 2. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
9 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
10 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
11 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
12 Act takes effect September 1, 2021.