

By: Martinez

H.B. No. 3467

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT

relating to emergency medical services personnel and coverage by certain health benefit plans for treatment by emergency medical services personnel.

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

SECTION 1. Section 773.003(10), Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

(10) "Emergency medical services personnel" means:

(A) emergency care attendant;

(B) emergency medical technicians;

(C) advanced emergency medical technicians;

(D) emergency medical technicians--paramedic;

~~or~~

(E) licensed paramedic;

(F) community health paramedic;

(G) paramedic practitioner; or

(H) emergency medical services physician.

SECTION 2. Subchapter C, Chapter 773, Health and Safety Code, is amended by adding Sections 773.0497, 773.0498, and 773.0499 to read as follows:

Sec. 773.0497. COMMUNITY HEALTH PARAMEDIC: QUALIFICATIONS AND LIST OF TRAINING PROGRAMS. (a) An individual qualifies as a community health paramedic if the individual:

(1) is licensed as a paramedic under this chapter; and

1 (2) completes a training program in community
2 paramedicine that meets the curriculum requirements established by
3 department rules.

4 (b) The department shall publish and maintain a public list
5 of training programs that meet the minimum requirements for
6 community health paramedic certification established by department
7 rule.

8 Sec. 773.0498. PARAMEDIC PRACTITIONER QUALIFICATIONS. An
9 individual qualifies as a paramedic practitioner if the individual:

10 (1) is licensed as a paramedic under this chapter; and

11 (2) either:

12 (A) is a physician assistant licensed under
13 Chapter 204, Occupations Code; or

14 (B) is an advanced practice registered nurse
15 licensed under Chapter 301, Occupations Code.

16 Sec. 773.0499. EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES PHYSICIAN
17 QUALIFICATIONS. An individual qualifies as an emergency medical
18 services physician if the individual:

19 (1) is a physician licensed to practice medicine in
20 this state; and

21 (2) is trained in emergency medical services.

22 SECTION 3. Subchapter B, Chapter 1201, Insurance Code, is
23 amended by adding Section 1201.066 to read as follows:

24 Sec. 1201.066. COVERAGE FOR EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES. An
25 individual or group accident and health insurance policy that is
26 delivered, issued for delivery, or renewed in this state, including
27 a policy issued by a corporation operating under Chapter 842, or by

1 a self-funded or self-insured welfare or benefit plan or program,
2 to the extent that regulation of the plan or program is not
3 preempted by federal law, that provides coverage for a child of an
4 insured or group member, on payment of a premium, must provide
5 coverage for:

6 (1) individuals who obtain emergency medical services
7 by an emergency medical services physician or paramedic
8 practitioner certified under Chapter 773, Health and Safety Code;
9 and

10 (2) individuals who obtain services from a qualified
11 health care professional by audio or audiovisual means while the
12 individual is attended by emergency medical services personnel, as
13 defined by Section 773.003, Health and Safety Code.

14 SECTION 4. (a) As soon as practicable after the effective
15 date of this Act, the executive commissioner of the Health and Human
16 Services Commission shall adopt the rules necessary to implement
17 the changes in law made by this Act.

18 (b) Section 1201.066, Insurance Code, as added by this Act,
19 applies only to a health benefit plan delivered, issued for
20 delivery, or renewed on or after January 1, 2024.

21 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect immediately if it receives
22 a vote of two-thirds of all the members elected to each house, as
23 provided by Section 39, Article III, Texas Constitution. If this
24 Act does not receive the vote necessary for immediate effect, this
25 Act takes effect September 1, 2023.