

**SUBJECT:** Performance measures for regional advisory councils in trauma service areas

**COMMITTEE:** Public Health — favorable, without amendment

**VOTE:** 5 ayes — Laubenberg, Truitt, Dawson, Taylor, Zedler  
0 nays  
4 absent — Capelo, Coleman, McReynolds, Naishtat

**SENATE VOTE:** On final passage, April 10 — 31-0, on Local and Uncontested Calendar

**WITNESSES:** None

**BACKGROUND:** Under Health and Safety Code, sec. 773.113, the Bureau of Emergency Management within the Texas Department of Health (TDH) must develop and monitor a statewide emergency medical services and trauma care system; designate trauma facilities; and develop and maintain a trauma reporting and analysis system to identify severely injured trauma patients at each health-care facility in the state, monitor trauma patient care, identify the total amount of uncompensated trauma care expenditures made by each health-care facility, and coordinate trauma care between Texas and other states with which Texas shares a standard metropolitan statistical area.

TDH has divided the state into 22 regions for trauma care delivery. Each region has a nonprofit regional advisory council (RAC) chartered by TDH to develop and coordinate trauma care services within the region. The RACs receive most of their funding from TDH.

**DIGEST:** SB 530 would require TDH to develop performance measures for RACs to promote the provision of a minimum level of emergency medical services in a trauma service area, to promote the provision of high-quality care and service, and to maximize the accuracy of information RACs provide to TDH. TDH would have to develop the performance measures by January 1, 2004.

The bill would take effect September 1, 2003.

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