

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
84R26153 SCL-D

H.B. 2020
By: Martinez, "Mando" et al. (Campbell)
Administration
5/22/2015
Engrossed

AUTHOR'S / SPONSOR'S STATEMENT OF INTENT

Interested parties contend that the law governing emergency medical services providers and licensees needs to be modified in order to better regulate the industry and improve consumer protections. These parties also contend that certain paramedics should be available as a resource for a health care facility and emergency room physician under certain circumstances. H.B. 2020 seeks to address these issues.

H.B. 2020 amends current law relating to the scope of duties of an emergency medical technician-paramedic and a licensed paramedic.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

Rulemaking authority is expressly granted to the executive commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission in SECTION 2 of this bill.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Subchapter C, Chapter 773, Health and Safety Code, by adding Section 773.0496, as follows:

Sec. 773.0496. SCOPE OF EMERGENCY MEDICAL TECHNICIAN-PARAMEDIC AND LICENSED PARAMEDIC DUTIES. (a) Defines "advanced life support" and "direct supervision."

(b) Provides that, 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 supervision of a licensed physician, and is authorized to provide advanced life support by a health care facility may in accordance with the Department of State Health Services rules provide advanced life support in the facility's emergency or urgent care clinical setting, including a hospital emergency room and a freestanding emergency medical care facility.

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

SECTION 3. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2015.