

AN ACT

1  
2 relating to the creation of a stroke committee and the development  
3 of a statewide stroke emergency transport plan and stroke facility  
4 criteria.

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

6 SECTION 1. Section 773.001, Health and Safety Code, is  
7 amended to read as follows:

8 Sec. 773.001. SHORT TITLE. This chapter may be cited as the  
9 Emergency Health Care [~~Medical Services~~] Act.

10 SECTION 2. Section 773.003, Health and Safety Code, is  
11 amended by amending Subdivision (7) and adding Subdivision (15-a)  
12 to read as follows:

13 (7) "Department" means the [~~Texas~~] Department of State  
14 Health Services.

15 (15-a) "Executive commissioner" means the executive  
16 commissioner of the Health and Human Services Commission.

17 SECTION 3. Chapter 773, Health and Safety Code, is amended  
18 by adding Subchapter H to read as follows:

19 SUBCHAPTER H. EMERGENCY STROKE SERVICES

20 Sec. 773.201. LEGISLATIVE INTENT. The legislature finds  
21 that a strong system for stroke survival is needed in the state's  
22 communities in order to treat stroke victims in a timely manner and  
23 to improve the overall treatment of stroke victims. Therefore, the  
24 legislature intends to construct an emergency treatment system in

1 this state so that stroke victims may be quickly identified and  
2 transported to and treated in appropriate stroke treatment  
3 facilities.

4 Sec. 773.202. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

5 (1) "Advisory council" means the advisory council  
6 established under Section 773.012.

7 (2) "Stroke committee" means the committee appointed  
8 under Section 773.203.

9 (3) "Stroke facility" means a health care facility  
10 that:

11 (A) is capable of primary or comprehensive  
12 treatment of stroke victims;

13 (B) is part of an emergency medical services and  
14 trauma care system as defined by Section 773.003;

15 (C) has a health care professional available 24  
16 hours a day, seven days a week who is knowledgeable about stroke  
17 care and capable of carrying out acute stroke therapy; and

18 (D) records patient treatment and outcomes.

19 Sec. 773.203. STROKE COMMITTEE. (a) The advisory council  
20 shall appoint a stroke committee to assist the advisory council in  
21 the development of a statewide stroke emergency transport plan and  
22 stroke facility criteria.

23 (b) The stroke committee must include the following  
24 members:

25 (1) a licensed physician appointed from a list of  
26 physicians eligible for accreditation in vascular neurology from  
27 the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education,

- 1 recommended by a statewide organization of neurologists;  
2 (2) a licensed interventional neuroradiologist  
3 appointed from a list of neuroradiologists recommended by a  
4 statewide organization of radiologists;  
5 (3) a neurosurgeon with stroke expertise;  
6 (4) a member of the Texas Council on Cardiovascular  
7 Disease and Stroke who has expertise in stroke care;  
8 (5) a licensed physician appointed from a list of  
9 physicians recommended by a statewide organization of emergency  
10 physicians;  
11 (6) a neuroscience registered nurse with stroke  
12 expertise; and  
13 (7) a volunteer member of a nonprofit organization  
14 specializing in stroke treatment, prevention, and education.  
15 (c) Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the  
16 stroke committee.  
17 Sec. 773.204. DUTIES OF STROKE COMMITTEE; DEVELOPMENT OF  
18 STROKE EMERGENCY TRANSPORT PLAN AND STROKE FACILITY CRITERIA.  
19 (a) The advisory council, with the assistance of the stroke  
20 committee and in collaboration with the Texas Council on  
21 Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke, shall develop a statewide stroke  
22 emergency transport plan and stroke facility criteria.  
23 (b) The stroke emergency transport plan must include:  
24 (1) training requirements on stroke recognition and  
25 treatment, including emergency screening procedures;  
26 (2) a list of appropriate early treatments to  
27 stabilize patients;

1           (3) protocols for rapid transport to a stroke facility  
2 when rapid transport is appropriate and it is safe to bypass another  
3 health care facility; and

4           (4) plans for coordination with statewide agencies or  
5 committees on programs for stroke prevention and community  
6 education regarding stroke and stroke emergency transport.

7           (c) In developing the stroke emergency transport plan and  
8 stroke facility criteria, the stroke committee shall consult the  
9 criteria for stroke facilities established by national medical  
10 organizations such as the Joint Commission on Accreditation of  
11 Healthcare Organizations.

12           Sec. 773.205. RULES. The executive commissioner may adopt  
13 rules regarding a statewide stroke emergency transport plan and  
14 stroke facility criteria based on recommendations from the advisory  
15 council.

16           SECTION 4. (a) Not later than January 1, 2006, the  
17 advisory council established under Section 773.012, Health and  
18 Safety Code, shall establish a stroke committee as required by  
19 Section 773.203, Health and Safety Code, as added by this Act.

20           (b) Not later than January 1, 2007, the advisory council  
21 established under Section 773.012, Health and Safety Code, may  
22 develop a statewide stroke emergency transport plan and stroke  
23 facility criteria as required by Section 773.204, Health and Safety  
24 Code, as added by this Act.

25           (c) Not later than January 1, 2007, the advisory council  
26 shall submit a report of the statewide stroke emergency transport  
27 plan to the governor, lieutenant governor, speaker of the house of



1 representatives, and executive commissioner of the Health and Human  
2 Services Commission.

3 (d) The advisory council shall include in any report under  
4 Subsection (c) of this section information regarding the stroke  
5 facility criteria developed by the council.

6 SECTION 5. This Act takes effect September 1, 2005.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of the Senate

\_\_\_\_\_  
Speaker of the House

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 330 passed the Senate on April 22, 2005, by the following vote: Yeas 28, Nays 1; May 26, 2005, Senate refused to concur in House amendments and requested appointment of Conference Committee; May 27, 2005, House granted request of the Senate; May 29, 2005, Senate adopted Conference Committee Report by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary of the Senate

I hereby certify that S.B. No. 330 passed the House, with amendments, on May 25, 2005, by a non-record vote; May 27, 2005, House granted request of the Senate for appointment of Conference Committee; May 29, 2005, House adopted Conference Committee Report by a non-record vote.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Chief Clerk of the House

Approved:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Governor