

A Bill for an Act Relating to Emergency Medical Services.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. Section 321-221, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“§321-221 Findings and purpose. The legislature finds that the establishment of a state comprehensive emergency medical services system is a matter of compelling state interest, to protect and preserve the health of the people of the State. A system designed to reduce medical emergency deaths, injuries, and permanent long-term disability through the implementation of a fully integrated, cohesive network of components, the legislature further finds, will best serve the health needs of the people. Accordingly, the purpose of this part is to establish and maintain a state comprehensive emergency medical services system throughout the State, and to fix the responsibility for the administration of this state system which shall provide for the arrangement of personnel, facilities, and equipment for the effective and coordinated delivery of health care services under emergency condi-

tions whether occurring as the result of a patient's condition or of natural disasters or other causes. The system shall provide for personnel, personnel training, communications, emergency transportation, facilities, coordination with emergency medical and critical care services, coordination and use of available public safety agencies, promotion of consumer participation, accessibility to care, mandatory standard medical record keeping, consumer information and education, independent review and evaluation, disaster linkage, mutual aid agreements, and other components necessary to meet the purposes of this part."

SECTION 2. Section 321-222, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending the definition of "State system" to read as follows:

"(4) "State system" means the state comprehensive pre-hospital emergency medical services system."

SECTION 3. Section 321-225, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

"(b) The advisory committee shall be composed of sixteen members: three non-voting ex-officio members, who shall be the director of transportation, the adjutant general, and the administrator of the state health planning and development agency, or the designated representatives thereof, and thirteen members representing all counties of the State and who shall be appointed by the governor subject to section 26-34 as follows:

- (1) Five members who shall be physicians experienced in the conduct and delivery of emergency medical services; provided that at least two shall be engaged in the full time practice of emergency medicine and be board eligible or board certified by the American Board of Emergency Medicine;
- (2) Four members who shall be consumers of health care and who shall have no connection with or relationship to the health care system of the State and who shall be representative of all counties;
- (3) Four members of allied health professions related to emergency medical services.

The members of the advisory committee shall serve without compensation, but shall be reimbursed for necessary expenses incurred in the performance of their duties, including travel expenses. The chairperson of the advisory committee shall be elected by the members from among their numbers. A majority of the members of the advisory committee shall constitute a quorum for the conduct of business of the advisory committee. A majority vote of the members present at a meeting at which a quorum is established shall be necessary to validate any action of the committee."

SECTION 4. Section 321-228, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

"§321-228 **Emergency medical services; counties.** The department of health shall determine, in consultation with the advisory committee under section 321-225, the levels of emergency medical services which shall be implemented in each county. The department of health may contract to provide emergency medical services or any necessary component of a county emergency services system in conformance with the state system. In the event any county shall apply to the department to operate

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emergency medical ambulance services within the respective county, the department of health may contract with the county for the provision of such services. The department shall operate emergency medical ambulance services or contract with a private agency in those counties which do not apply to it under this section. Any county or private agency contracting to provide emergency medical ambulance services under this section shall be required by the department to implement such services in a manner and at a level consistent with the levels determined under this section.”

SECTION 5. Section 321-229, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“§321- 29 Emergency medical services personnel, training programs. The department of health shall be responsible for the training of basic life support and advance life support personnel and may contract for such training with accredited community colleges, colleges, and universities, and with professional medical organizations recognized by the American Medical Association. The basic life support and advance life support training programs shall be based on a medical model.

SECTION 6. Section 321-230, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“§321- 30 Technical assistance, data collection, evaluation. The department of health may contract for technical assistance and consultation, including but not limited to categorization, data collection, and evaluation appropriate to the needs of the state system.

For the purposes of this section, “categorization” means systematic identification of the readiness and capabilities of hospitals and their staffs to adequately, expeditiously, and efficiently receive and treat emergency patients.”

SECTION 7. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New material is underscored.*

SECTION 8. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved June 2, 1981.)

*The text has been edited pursuant to HRS §23G-16.5, authorizing omission of the brackets, bracketed material, and underscoring.