

ACT 242

S.B. NO. 2615

A Bill for an Act Relating to a Comprehensive Emergency Medical Services System for Children.

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 to include but not be limited to emergency medical services for children is a matter of compelling state interest[,] and necessary 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 conditions 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 adding a new definition to be appropriately inserted and to read as follows:

““Emergency medical services for children” means comprehensive emergency medical services including preventive, pre-hospital, hospital, rehabilitative, and other post-hospital care for children.”

SECTION 3. Section 321-224, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended to read as follows:

“§321-224 Department of health, functions, duties. In addition to other functions and duties assigned under this part, the department shall:

- (1) Regulate ambulances and ambulance services;
- (2) Establish emergency medical services throughout the State, which shall meet the requirements of this part, subject to section 321-228;
- (3) Provide training for basic life support personnel and [advance] advanced life support personnel, as provided in section 321-229;
- (4) Collect and evaluate data for the continued evaluation of the state system subject to section 321-230;
- (5) Coordinate emergency medical resources[,] and the allocation of the state system’s services and facilities[,] in the event of mass casualties, natural disasters, national emergencies, and other emergencies, ensuring linkage to local, state, and national disaster plans, and participation in exercises to test these plans;
- (6) Establish, administer, and maintain a communication system for the state system;
- (7) Assist each county in the development of a “911” emergency telephone system;
- (8) Secure technical assistance and other assistance and consultation necessary [to] for the implementation of this part, subject to section 321-230;
- (9) Implement public information and education programs to inform the public of the state system and its use, and disseminate other emergency medical information, including appropriate methods of medical self-help and first-aid, and the availability of first-aid training programs in the State;
- (10) Establish standards and provide training for dispatchers in the state system, and maintain a program of quality assurance for dispatch equipment and operations;
- (11) Establish a program that will enable emergency service personnel to provide early defibrillation; [and]
- (12) Establish within the department the emergency medical service system for children program; and
- [(12)] (13) Consult with the advisory committee on matters relating to the implementation of this part.”

SECTION 4. Section 321-225, Hawaii Revised Statutes, is amended by amending subsection (b) to read as follows:

“(b) The advisory committee shall be composed of twenty members: three nonvoting 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 seventeen 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] board-eligible or board-certified by the American Board of Emergency Medicine[;], and provided further that at least one physician shall be engaged in the practice of pediatrics and be board-eligible or board-certified by the American Board of Pediatrics;
- (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; and
- (4) Four members, one from each county, who shall be mobile intensive care technicians or emergency medical technicians engaged in the [full time] practice of [prehospital] pre-hospital emergency medical service.

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

"§321-230 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. The collection and analysis of statewide emergency medical services data, including pediatrics, trauma, cardiac, medical, and behavioral medical emergencies is for the purpose of improving the quality of services provided.

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 6. Statutory material to be repealed is bracketed. New statutory material is underscored.

SECTION 7. This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

(Approved June 29, 1994.)