

HCS HB 226 -- REGIONAL EMS MEDICAL DIRECTORS

SPONSOR: Hubrecht

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Health and Mental Health Policy by a vote of 10 to 0. Voted "Do Pass" by the Standing Committee on Rules- Administrative Oversight by a vote of 13 to 0.

This bill specifies that the state EMS medical director shall be the chair of the State EMS Medical Director's Advisory Committee. This bill also specifies that:

- (1) Elected regional EMS medical directors shall be considered public officials for the purposes of sovereign immunity, official immunity, and the Missouri public duty doctrine defenses;
- (2) The State EMS Medical Director's Advisory Committee shall be considered a peer review committee and regional EMS medical directors shall be eligible to participate in the Missouri Patient Safety Organization as provided under Patient Safety and Quality Improvement Act of 2005;
- (3) Regional EMS medical directors may act to provide on-line telecommunication medical direction to EMT-Bs, EMT-Is, EMT-Ps, and community paramedics and provide off-line medical direction per standardized treatment, triage, and transport protocols when EMS personnel, including EMT-Bs, EMT-Is, EMT-Ps, or community paramedics, are providing care to special needs patients or at the request of a local EMS agency or medical director;
- (4) When developing treatment protocols for special needs patients, regional EMS medical directors may promulgate such protocols on a regional basis across multiple political subdivisions' jurisdictional boundaries;
- (5) Multiple EMS agencies shall take necessary steps to follow established regional EMS protocols in cases of mass casualty or state-declared disaster incidents;
- (6) When regional EMS medical directors develop and implement treatment protocols for patients or provide on-line medical direction for such patients, such activity shall not be construed as having usurped local medical direction authority in any manner; and
- (7) When regional EMS medical directors are providing either on-line telecommunication medical direction to EMT-Bs, EMT-Is, EMT-Ps, and community paramedics, or off-line medical direction per standardized EMS treatment, triage, and transport protocols for

patients, those medical directions or treatment protocols may include the administration of the patient's own prescription medications.

This bill is similar to HB 2665 (2016).

PROPOSERS: Supporters say that people with special health needs require medications that every pharmacy or EMS might not have on hand and this bill will allow individualized care to every patient by using medical protocols and allow EMT's to be able to use emergency medical orders.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Hubrecht; Missouri Emergency Services Association; Brian Froelke; Darlene Shelton; Ambulance District Association of Missouri; and Missouri Ambulance Association.

OPPOSERS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.