

# GETAC meets at conference in Fort Worth

The Governor's EMS and Trauma Advisory Council (GETAC) met on Monday, November 24, 2008, in Fort Worth. Following are the motions put forward after the chair, staff, standing committees/task forces and other groups reported on their most recent activities. For a more detailed recap of the GETAC meeting, go to [www.dshs.state.tx.us/emstraumasystems/governor.shtm](http://www.dshs.state.tx.us/emstraumasystems/governor.shtm).

## Action items

A motion was made by Pete Wolf and seconded by Marti VanRavenswaay for GETAC to support legislation to strengthen DSHS's ability to use criminal background as a determinant for initial and continued certification, including exempting EMS from Chapter 53 of the Occupations Code and inserting appropriate language in Chapter 773 of the Health Safety Code. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Pete Wolf and seconded by Ryan Matthews for GETAC to support the EMS Committee's request for DSHS to allow the committee to reopen discussion of 157.11, EMS Provider Licensure Rule, to work on possible revisions. The motion was approved with 10 in favor and four opposed.

A motion was made by Pete Wolf and seconded by Vance Riley for GETAC to ask DSHS to place a moratorium on enforcement of the particular section of 157.11, Provider Licensure Rule, concerning the placement of the provider's license number in 2-inch tall letters on both sides of

all ambulances. The motion failed to pass with six in favor and eight opposed.

A motion was made by Joan Shook, MD, and seconded by Tivy Whitlock that all committees include liaison reports as a standing item on their agendas. The motion was approved with 13 in favor and one opposed.

A motion was made by Mike Click and seconded by Vance Riley that GETAC approve the support stroke facility criteria designation with the amendment of physician and nurse comment on National Institute of Health Stroke Skill (NIHSS) competency or certification. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by Mike Click and seconded by Vance Riley to amend the rule 157.133 for a three-year designation for a stroke facility rather than a two-year designation. The motion passed unanimously.

A motion was made by John Smith and seconded by Randy Loflin, MD, to have the GETAC chair and standing committee chair jointly discuss the size of each standing committee and increase them if needed. A friendly amendment was made by Ryan Matthews noting if the committee cannot agree on a consensus, then it be brought to GETAC for discussion. That amendment was not accepted, due to the next GETAC meeting date being after the selection process will be completed. Pete Wolf suggested that a third person, someone from the Department of State Health Services, work with the GETAC

Chair and Committee Chair (if needed) in deciding whether it is necessary to increase the number of members on a particular committee, with the decision ultimately resting with the GETAC chair. The motion passed unanimously.

GETAC committees meet February 25-26, 2009. GETAC meets February 27, 2009. All meetings are in Austin at the Omni Southpark.

## GETAC dates for 2009

February 25-27, 2009

May 13-15, 2009

August 19-21, 2009

November 21-23, 2009 (*In Fort Worth, in conjunction with Texas EMS Conference 2009*)

## How to reserve a room

The February, May and August meetings will be at the Omni Southpark in Austin. For reservations, call (512) 448-2222 and use the group code GETAC. You can also go to [www.omnihotels.com/findahotel/austinsouthpark/meetingfacilities/getac2.aspx](http://www.omnihotels.com/findahotel/austinsouthpark/meetingfacilities/getac2.aspx) and use the group code GETAC.

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