AN ACT

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SUBCHAPTER H. EMERGENCY STROKE SERVICES

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

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

Sec. 773.202. DEFINITIONS. In this subchapter:

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

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

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

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

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

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

(D) records patient treatment and outcomes.

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

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

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

recommended by a statewide organization of neurologists;

(2) a licensed interventional neuroradiologist appointed from a list of neuroradiologists recommended by a statewide organization of radiologists;

(3) a neurosurgeon with stroke expertise;

(4) a member of the Texas Council on Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke who has expertise in stroke care;

(5) a licensed physician appointed from a list of physicians recommended by a statewide organization of emergency physicians;

(6) a neuroscience registered nurse with stroke expertise; and

(7) a volunteer member of a nonprofit organization specializing in stroke treatment, prevention, and education.

(c) Chapter 2110, Government Code, does not apply to the stroke committee.

Sec. 773.204. DUTIES OF STROKE COMMITTEE; DEVELOPMENT OF STROKE EMERGENCY TRANSPORT PLAN AND STROKE FACILITY CRITERIA. (a) The advisory council, with the assistance of the stroke committee and in collaboration with the Texas Council on Cardiovascular Disease and Stroke, shall develop a statewide stroke emergency transport plan and stroke facility criteria.

(b) The stroke emergency transport plan must include:

(1) training requirements on stroke recognition and treatment, including emergency screening procedures;

(2) a list of appropriate early treatments to stabilize patients;

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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