

By: Huggins

To: Public Health and  
Welfare;  
Appropriations

SENATE BILL NO. 2931  
(As Sent to Governor)

1 AN ACT TO AMEND SECTION 41-59-3, MISSISSIPPI CODE OF 1972, TO  
2 PROVIDE THAT LEVEL I TRAUMA FACILITIES LOCATED IN CONTIGUOUS  
3 STATES MAY BE DESIGNATED BY THE STATE DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AS PART  
4 OF THE STATEWIDE TRAUMA CARE SYSTEM; AND FOR RELATED PURPOSES.

5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI:

6 SECTION 1. Section 41-59-3, Mississippi Code of 1972, is  
7 amended as follows:[RF1]

8 41-59-3. As used in this chapter, unless the context  
9 otherwise requires, the term:

10 (a) "Ambulance" shall mean any privately or publicly  
11 owned land or air vehicle that is especially designed,  
12 constructed, modified or equipped to be used, maintained and  
13 operated upon the streets, highways or airways of this state to  
14 assist persons who are sick, injured, wounded, or otherwise  
15 incapacitated or helpless;

16 (b) "Permit" shall mean an authorization issued for an  
17 ambulance vehicle and/or a special use EMS vehicle as meeting the  
18 standards adopted pursuant to this chapter;

19 (c) "License" shall mean an authorization to any  
20 person, firm, corporation, or governmental division or agency to  
21 provide ambulance services in the State of Mississippi;

22 (d) "Emergency medical technician" shall mean an  
23 individual who possesses a valid emergency medical technician's  
24 certificate issued pursuant to the provisions of this chapter;

25 (e) "Certificate" shall mean official acknowledgment  
26 that an individual has successfully completed the recommended  
27 basic emergency medical technician training course referred to in

28 this chapter which entitles that individual to perform the  
29 functions and duties of an emergency medical technician;

30 (f) "Board" shall mean the State Board of Health;

31 (g) "Department" means the Mississippi State Department  
32 of Health, Division of Emergency Medical Services;

33 (h) "Executive officer" shall mean the Executive  
34 Officer of the State Board of Health or his designated  
35 representative;

36 (i) "Invalid vehicle" shall mean any privately or  
37 publicly owned land or air vehicle which is maintained, operated  
38 and used only to transport persons routinely who are convalescent  
39 or otherwise nonambulatory and do not require the service of an  
40 emergency medical technician while in transit;

41 (j) "Special use EMS vehicle" means any privately or  
42 publicly owned land, water or air emergency vehicle used to  
43 support the provision of emergency medical services. These  
44 vehicles shall not be used routinely to transport patients;

45 (k) "Trauma care system" or "trauma system" means a  
46 formally organized arrangement of health care resources that has  
47 been designated by the department by which major trauma victims  
48 are triaged, transported to and treated at trauma care facilities;

49 (l) "Trauma care facility" or "trauma center" means a  
50 hospital located in the State of Mississippi or a Level I trauma  
51 care facility or center located in a state contiguous to the State  
52 of Mississippi that has been designated by the department to  
53 perform specified trauma care services within a trauma care system  
54 pursuant to standards adopted by the department. Participation in  
55 this designation by each hospital is voluntary;

56 (m) "Trauma registry" means a collection of data on  
57 patients who receive hospital care for certain types of injuries.

58 Such data are primarily designed to ensure quality trauma care  
59 and outcomes in individual institutions and trauma systems, but  
60 have the secondary purpose of providing useful data for the  
61 surveillance of injury morbidity and mortality.

62 SECTION 2. This act shall take effect and be in force from  
63 and after July 1, 2000.