

AN ACT

relating to the qualifications of a volunteer emergency care attendant.

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

SECTION 1. Section 773.046, Health and Safety Code, is amended to read as follows:

Sec. 773.046. EMERGENCY CARE ATTENDANT QUALIFICATIONS. (a) An individual qualifies as an emergency care attendant if the individual is certified by the department as minimally proficient to provide emergency prehospital care by providing initial aid that promotes comfort and avoids aggravation of an injury or illness.

(b) The department may not require an individual to have a high school diploma or a high school equivalency certificate for certification as an emergency care attendant under this chapter if the individual certifies that the individual will serve only as an emergency care attendant volunteer during the certification period.

(c) The board shall adopt rules as necessary to administer this section.

SECTION 2. The Texas Board of Health shall adopt the rules necessary under Section 773.046, Health and Safety Code, as amended by this Act, not later than January 1, 2004.

SECTION 3. The change in law made by this Act to Section 773.046, Health and Safety Code, applies only to an individual who

1 files an application for certification as an emergency care
2 attendant volunteer on or after January 1, 2004.

3 SECTION 4. This Act takes effect September 1, 2003.

FROM: John Keel, Director, Legislative Budget Board

IN RE: **HB861** by McReynolds (Relating to the qualifications of a volunteer emergency care attendant.), **As Engrossed**

No significant fiscal implication to the State is anticipated.

The bill would prohibit the Department of Health from requiring a high school diploma or a high school equivalency certificate (GED) as a prerequisite for certification as an Emergency Care Attendant if the applicant certifies that he or she would only serve as a volunteer during the certification period.

Local Government Impact

No fiscal implication to units of local government is anticipated.

Source Agencies: 501 Department of Health

LBB Staff: JK, EB, KF, MB

David Newburn

President of the Senate

Jim Cusick

Speaker of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 861 was passed by the House on April 10, 2003, by a non-record vote.

Robert Haney

Chief Clerk of the House

I certify that H.B. No. 861 was passed by the Senate on May 20, 2003, by the following vote: Yeas 31, Nays 0.

Letsy Spaw

Secretary of the Senate

APPROVED: 20 JUN 03

Date

Rick Perry

Governor

FILED IN THE OFFICE OF THE
SECRETARY OF STATE
8:30 PM O'CLOCK

Ann Shea
JUN 20 2003
Secretary of State