

AMENDED IN SENATE JULY 7, 2015
AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY MARCH 23, 2015
CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 503

Introduced by Assembly Member Rodriguez

February 23, 2015

An act to add Section 1797.122 to the Health and Safety Code, relating to emergency medical services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 503, as amended, Rodriguez. Emergency medical services.

Existing law requires the Emergency Medical Services Authority to develop planning and implementation guidelines for emergency medical services (EMS) systems that address several components, including, but not limited to, manpower and training, communications, transportation, and assessment of hospitals and critical care centers.

This bill would authorize a health facility, as defined, to release patient-identifiable medical information to a defined EMS provider, a local EMS agency, and the authority, to the extent specific data elements are requested for quality assessment and improvement purposes. The bill would also ~~require~~ *authorize* the authority to develop minimum standards for the implementation of this data collection.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to encourage
 2 data sharing between emergency medical services providers and
 3 hospitals in order to improve system effectiveness, quality of care,
 4 and the impact of emergency medical services on death and
 5 disability.

6 SEC. 2. Section 1797.122 is added to the Health and Safety
 7 Code, to read:

8 1797.122. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, a health facility
 9 as defined in subdivision (a) or (b) of Section 1250 may release
 10 patient-identifiable medical information under the following
 11 circumstances:

12 (1) To an EMS provider, information regarding a patient who
 13 was treated, or transported to the hospital by, that EMS provider,
 14 to the extent that specific data elements are requested for quality
 15 assessment and improvement purposes.

16 (2) To the authority or the local EMS agency, to the extent that
 17 specific data elements are requested for quality assessment and
 18 improvement purposes.

19 (b) An EMS provider, local EMS agency, and the authority shall
 20 request only those data elements that are minimally necessary in
 21 compliance with Section 164.502 (b) and Section 164.514 (d) of
 22 Title 45 of the Code of Federal Regulations.

23 (c) The authority ~~shall~~ *may* develop minimum standards for the
 24 implementation of data collection for system operation, patient
 25 outcome, and performance quality improvement.

26 (d) For purposes of this section, “EMS provider” means an
 27 organization employing an Emergency Medical Technician-I,
 28 Advanced Emergency Medical Technician, ~~or~~ Emergency Medical
 29 ~~Technician-Paramedic~~ *Technician-Paramedic, registered nurse,*
 30 *or physician* for the delivery of emergency medical care to the sick
 31 and injured at the scene of an emergency, during transport, or
 32 during an interfacility transfer.

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