

**ASSEMBLY BILL**

**No. 1223**

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**Introduced by Assembly Member O'Donnell**

February 27, 2015

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An act to amend Section 1797.220 of the Health and Safety Code, relating to emergency medical services.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1223, as introduced, O'Donnell. Emergency medical services: noncritical cases.

Existing law, the Emergency Medical Services System and the Prehospital Emergency Medical Care Personnel Act, authorizes each county to develop an emergency medical services program. The act further authorizes a local emergency medical services (EMS) agency to develop and submit a plan to the Emergency Medical Services Authority for an emergency medical services system, and requires the local EMS agency, using state minimum standards, to establish policies and procedures that may require basic life support emergency medical transportation services to meet any medical control requirements including dispatch, patient destination policies, patient care guidelines, and quality assurance requirements.

This bill would authorize the policies and procedures to allow for the transportation of a noncritical case that cannot be immediately admitted to a hospital emergency room to another appropriate medical treatment facility, including, but not limited to, a clinic, as defined, or a doctors' office.

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

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 1797.220 of the Health and Safety Code  
2 is amended to read:  
3 1797.220. (a) The local EMS agency, using state minimum  
4 standards, shall establish policies and procedures approved by the  
5 medical director of the local EMS agency to assure medical control  
6 of the EMS system. The policies and procedures approved by the  
7 medical director may require basic life support emergency medical  
8 transportation services to meet any medical control requirements  
9 including dispatch, patient destination policies, patient care  
10 guidelines, and quality assurance requirements.  
11 (b) *The policies and procedures adopted pursuant to subdivision*  
12 *(a) may allow for the transportation of a noncritical case that*  
13 *cannot be immediately admitted to a hospital emergency room to*  
14 *another appropriate medical treatment facility, including, but not*  
15 *limited to, a clinic as defined in Section 1200 or an establishment*  
16 *owned or leased and operated as a clinic or office by one or more*  
17 *licensed health care practitioners and used as an office for the*  
18 *practice of their profession.*