

BILL ANALYSIS

Senate Research Center
77R5920 JRD-F

S.B. 1006
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Health & Human Services
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As Filed

DIGEST AND PURPOSE

Currently, licensed hospitals are required to test patients for hepatitis B or C following accidental exposure of a health care worker to a patient's blood or other body fluids. However, emergency medical services personnel and other persons who render assistance and are exposed to the patient's body fluids are not included under this testing requirement. As proposed, S.B. 1006 requires the hospital receiving the patient to test for hepatitis B and C upon notification of accidental exposure to a patient's blood or other body fluid.

RULEMAKING AUTHORITY

This bill does not expressly grant any additional rulemaking authority to a state officer, institution, or agency.

SECTION BY SECTION ANALYSIS

SECTION 1. Amends Section 81.095, Health and Safety Code, to require a licensed hospital, in a case of accidental exposure of certified emergency medical services personnel, a firefighter, or any other person who renders assistance at the scene of an emergency or during transport to the hospital, to blood or other body fluids of a patient who is transported to the hospital, to take reasonable steps to test the patient for hepatitis B or hepatitis C.

SECTION 2. Effective date: upon passage or September 1, 2001.