

**As Reported by the House Transportation and Public Safety Committee**

**134th General Assembly**

**Regular Session**

**2021-2022**

**S. B. No. 21**

**Senators Antonio, Manning**

**Cosponsors: Senators Blessing, Craig, Fedor, Hackett, Kunze, Maharath, Romanchuk, Rulli, Schuring, Sykes, Thomas, Williams, Yuko, Huffman, S., Brenner, Dolan, Gavarone, Hoagland, Johnson, Lang, Reineke, Schaffer, Wilson  
Representatives Baldrige, Creech, Hall, Lepore-Hagan**

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**A BILL**

To amend section 4765.401 of the Revised Code 1  
regarding emergency medical services and stroke 2  
patient protocols. 3

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF OHIO:**

**Section 1.** That section 4765.401 of the Revised Code be 4  
amended to read as follows: 5

**Sec. 4765.401.** (A) The (1) Not later than ninety days 6  
after the effective date of this amendment, the state board of 7  
emergency medical, fire, and transportation services shall 8  
develop guidelines for the assessment, triage, and transport to 9  
hospitals of stroke patients by emergency medical service 10  
personnel. In doing so, the board shall consult with a diverse 11  
group of hospital leaders around this state, including those 12  
that represent large health systems, hospitals not affiliated 13  
with a large health system, hospitals located in rural 14  
communities, as well as comprehensive stroke centers, primary 15  
stroke centers, and acute stroke ready hospitals recognized as 16

such by the department of health pursuant to section 3727.13 of 17  
the Revised Code. The board shall make the guidelines available 18  
on the internet web site maintained by the board. The board 19  
shall review the guidelines periodically and update them as 20  
needed. If the board updates the guidelines, the board shall 21  
make the updated versions available on the web site it 22  
maintains. The board may distribute the guidelines and their 23  
updated versions in any other manner acceptable to the board. 24

(2) Based on the guidelines developed under division (A) 25  
(1) of this section and not later than one hundred eighty days 26  
after the effective date of this amendment, the medical director 27  
or cooperating physician advisory board of each emergency 28  
medical service organization shall establish written protocols 29  
for the assessment, treatment, and transport to hospitals of 30  
stroke patients by emergency medical service personnel. ~~In~~When 31  
establishing protocols, the medical director or cooperating 32  
physician advisory board shall consult with one or more local 33  
hospitals. 34

(B) ~~Each~~(1) The medical director or cooperating physician 35  
advisory board of each emergency medical service organization 36  
shall provide copies of its protocols annually to the state 37  
board of emergency medical, fire, and transportation services; 38  
the department of health; and the regional director or regional 39  
advisory board appointed under section 4765.05 of the Revised 40  
Code for the organization's emergency medical services region. 41

(2) The state board of emergency medical, fire, and 42  
transportation services shall make available to the public 43  
copies of the protocols submitted under division (B) (1) of this 44  
section. 45

(C) The medical director or cooperating physician advisory 46

board of each emergency medical service organization shall 47  
provide periodically to its emergency medical service personnel 48  
training in the assessment and treatment of stroke patients. The 49  
training shall address the assessment of stroke severity. 50

(D) The immunity from civil liability granted by section 51  
4765.49 of the Revised Code applies to actions taken under this 52  
section. 53

**Section 2.** That existing section 4765.401 of the Revised 54  
Code is hereby repealed. 55