



1 facility may be required, the model protocol shall require  
2 that the hospital update any existing agreements between the  
3 hospital and ambulance services that provide transportation  
4 services within the geographical boundaries served by the  
5 hospital in order to ensure the prompt and orderly evacuation  
6 of patients.

7 (a) The model protocol must include procedures for  
8 training hospital personnel who will be called upon to carry  
9 out key roles during a declared state of emergency or an  
10 evacuation of hospital patients. Any reassignment of personnel  
11 must be based on the employee's professional training,  
12 experience, and abilities. The protocol must provide direction  
13 to hospital administrators in reassigning personnel to perform  
14 essential duties and functions.

15 (b) The model protocol shall require that the hospital  
16 provide shelter space for the children of hospital employees  
17 who are required to be on duty at the hospital during a  
18 natural disaster or declared state of emergency. The shelter  
19 plan must ensure that adequate staff are provided for the  
20 shelter and that there is a reliable communications system.

21 (c) During the postdisaster response and recovery  
22 period if supplies are available, the model protocol shall  
23 require that the hospital give special consideration to  
24 supplying employees with ice, food, and gasoline in order to  
25 assist employees in performing their duties.

26 (2) Based on the model protocol adopted by the agency,  
27 each hospital shall adopt uniform policies and procedures to  
28 be implemented by the hospital in the event of a natural  
29 disaster or state of emergency. The policies and procedures  
30 must provide for the proper staffing of the hospital before  
31 and during a declared state of emergency and for the

1 evacuation of the hospital if necessary. The hospital shall  
2 update its existing agreements with ambulance services within  
3 the geographical boundaries served by the hospital in order to  
4 reflect the procedures to be followed if it is necessary to  
5 evacuate the hospital.

6 (3) The agency shall prescribe by rule a schedule for  
7 each hospital to submit its adopted policies and procedures to  
8 the agency for review and approval.

9 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2006.

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12 SENATE SUMMARY

13 Requires the Agency for Health Care Administration to  
14 adopt a model protocol of uniform policies and procedures  
15 for hospitals to follow in the event of a natural  
16 disaster or declared state of emergency. Requires that  
17 the model protocol require agreements with ambulance  
18 services for the evacuation of patients, provide staffing  
19 and training requirements, and require that shelter space  
20 be provided for children of hospital employees. Requires  
21 each hospital to adopt policies and procedures based on  
22 the agency's model protocol and submit the policies and  
23 procedures to the agency for approval.  
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