

1998 SESSION

INTRODUCED

986762388

HOUSE BILL NO. 441

Offered January 16, 1998

A BILL to amend and reenact § 54.1-2987.1 of the Code of Virginia, relating to Emergency Medical Services Do Not Resuscitate Orders.

Patron—Orrock

Referred to Committee on Health, Welfare and Institutions

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of Virginia:

1. That § 54.1-2987.1 of the Code of Virginia is amended and reenacted as follows:

§ 54.1-2987.1. Authorization to follow Emergency Medical Services Do Not Resuscitate Orders (EMS-DNR Orders).

A. Qualified emergency medical services personnel or hospital emergency department health care providers shall be authorized to follow Emergency Medical Services Do Not Resuscitate Orders pertaining to qualified patients in the pre-hospital or hospital emergency department setting in accordance with regulations promulgated by the Board of Health, if the order available to such personnel is in a form approved by the Board of Health.

For the purposes of this section, an Emergency Medical Services Do Not Resuscitate Order may be issued for qualified patients who are individuals diagnosed to be afflicted with terminal conditions or patients for whom attending physicians have issued Do Not Resuscitate Orders.

B. This section shall not authorize emergency medical personnel or hospital emergency department health care providers to follow an Emergency Medical Services Do Not Resuscitate Order for any patient who is able to, and does, express to such emergency medical services personnel or hospital emergency department health care providers the desire to be resuscitated prior to cardiac or respiratory arrest.

C. Nothing in this section or the definition of Emergency Medical Services Do Not Resuscitate Orders provided in § 54.1-2982 shall be construed to limit the issuance of or the authorization of physicians and those persons designated in § 54.1-2901 to follow Do Not Resuscitate Orders other than Emergency Medical Services Do Not Resuscitate Orders.

D. The provisions of this section shall not require any emergency services personnel to attempt to resuscitate an individual after the death of such individual has been pronounced or determined in accordance with § 54.1-2972.

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