



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HB 2179

critical health information; emergency responders  
Prime Sponsor: Representative Gabaldón, et al., LD 2

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**DP** Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure

**X** Committee on Health

Caucus and COW

House Engrossed

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## **OVERVIEW**

HB 2179 allows a city, town or county to establish a program which provides emergency responders with critical health information about individuals who participate in the program by ordinance.

## **PROVISIONS**

1. Permits a city, town or county to establish, by ordinance, a program which provides emergency responders with critical health information about individuals who participate in the program in order for emergency responders to aid participants who are involved in motor vehicle accidents or emergencies.
2. Outlines standards of such a program for a city, town or county as follows:
  - a. Requires an interested party (including local law enforcement agencies, fire departments and emergency medical services personnel) to consult with each other and design program materials, giving consideration to similar programs in other states for the purpose of uniformity. The program materials must include all of the following:
    - i. A yellow decal of uniform size and design that is to be placed on the rear driver's side window.
    - ii. A health information card that provides a recent photograph of the participant and indicate their name, emergency contact information, physician's names and contact information, medical conditions, recent surgeries, allergies, medications and any other information the city, town or county deems relevant.
    - iii. A yellow envelope for the health information card to be inserted into and placed in the participant's glove compartment.
  - b. Mandates the city, town or county to provide program materials to the public and to state and local law enforcement agencies.
  - c. Allows the city, town or county to charge a participant a fee which will be determined by the local entity.
3. Provides that a yellow decal on a motor vehicle involved in a vehicle accident or emergency:
  - a. Serves as a notification to an emergency responder that the driver or any of the passengers may be a program participant.
  - b. Authorizes the responding emergency provider to search the glove compartment for the yellow program envelope.

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4. Allows the emergency provider to use the information contained in the yellow envelope for the following purposes:
  - a. To identify the program participant.
  - b. To determine whether the program participant has a medical condition that could impede communications with the emergency responder.
  - c. To communicate with the program participant's emergency contacts about the condition and location of the participant.
  - d. To consider the program participant's current medications or preexisting conditions when treatment is administered.
5. States that an emergency responder is not liable for civil damages resulting from acts or omissions that do not amount to willful misconduct or gross negligence in response to incomplete, incorrect or outdated information provided on a health information card if the responder acted in good faith in the execution of care.
6. States that an emergency responder is not liable for damage to a program participant's vehicle when obtaining information if the participant is unresponsive.
7. Defines *emergency responder* and *program participant*.

### **CURRENT LAW**

Currently not addressed in statute.