

House Research Act Summary

CHAPTER: 84

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TOPIC: Ambulance Service/First Responder Review Organizations

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Overview

This act defines the term "review organization" for ambulance services and first responder services. It also specifies that ambulance service review organizations and first responder review organizations are protected from liability for their peer review activities, as other review organizations are, and are governed by the same provisions of law that govern other review organizations.

1 Review organization. Adds § 144E.32. Specifies that provisions of law governing review organizations in general also apply to ambulance service review organizations and first responder review organizations. Defines "review organization" for ambulance services and first responder services.

Subd. 1. Applicable law. Makes sections 145.61 to 145.67 apply to ambulance service review organizations and first responder review organizations. These sections apply to other types of review organizations and include provisions that:

provide that review organizations, their employees, and people and entities that report information to them or use them to conduct peer review are protected from liability;

establish data privacy protections for provider data, Hennepin County EMS data, and data acquired by review organizations;

make it a misdemeanor to violate data privacy provisions;

prohibit any guidelines established by a review organization from being admitted into evidence in any proceeding brought by a patient against a provider; and

specify that these sections do not affect a provider's liability for patient services.

Subd. 2. Review organization defined. Specifies that the definition of "review organization," for ambulance services and first responder services, includes a committee of ambulance service personnel who gather, create, and review information relating to the care and treatment patients receive in emergency medical care.

- 2 **Review organization.** Amends § 145.61, subd. 5. For the sections related to peer review organizations, amends the definition of "review organization" to include, in that definition, review organizations as defined in section 1 that are established by ambulance services or first responder services.