

**Program Description for: TEXAS**

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**Date Completed:** 02/27/2007

**Date Updated:**

**State or Region:** Texas  
**Area of Use:** Proposed to be statewide

- Program Status:**
- No Program (possibly state contacts)
  - Developing Program
  - Endorsed by National POLST Paradigm Initiative Task Force

**Name of program / form:** Transferable Physician Order Form

Yes	No	Optional	POSSIBLE POLST PARADIGM COMPONENTS
X			1. Form has a uniform, standardized color
X			2. Decisions reflected in the form are medical orders that must be followed by emergency personnel in the field and emergency rooms.
X			3. The form accompanies the patient across care settings
X			4. CPR / DNR section
X			5. Levels of interventions for #3
X			6. Levels of interventions for #4
X			7. Feeding Tube
X			8. Antibiotics
X			9. Basis for orders
		X	10. Person completing form
X			11. Physician / NP / PA signature
		X	12. Physician / NP / PA name & office number
X			13. Patient / Legal agent signature
		X	14. Designation of legal agent name and number
		X	15. Space for review
		X	16. Statement about leeway ( <i>is the patient's surrogate provided authority to interpret the goals and preference at the time decisions are made?</i> )

**EXTENT OF USE:**

**Start year:** Proposed for September 1, 2007 implementation

**Settings of skills:** No limit on settings in proposed bill

**Range of use:** No limit on proposed bill

**Use by those under 18yrs:** Yes

**Distributed per month:** N/A

**Distributed per year:** N/A

**HISTORY:**

A bill to create the program in Texas was filed by Senator Jane Nelson as Senate Bill 28. The bill is still in the process. Some details are in the bill, but many would be addressed through rulemaking conducted by the Texas Health and Human Services Commission should the bill pass.

**BARRIERS OVERCOME:**

There have been some concerns about patient protections in the bill and about the overall end of life care law in Texas.

**STATE LAW AND REGULATIONS:**

SB 28 would be the law if passed. Regulations would follow, N/A

**POLST IN THE HEALTH CARE SETTING:****Policies (hospitals, nursing homes, EMS, etc.):**

Would be determined by regulations.

**Management:**

Would be determined by regulations.

**Training for health care professionals:**

Would be determined by regulations.

**Training for the public and patients:**

Would be determined by regulations.

**CQI projects and research:**

Would be determined by regulations.