



Rep. Deb Conroy

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LRB102 04346 CPF 26665 a

1 AMENDMENT TO SENATE BILL 693

2 AMENDMENT NO. _____. Amend Senate Bill 693 by replacing
3 everything after the enacting clause with the following:

4 "Section 5. The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Systems
5 Act is amended by changing Sections 3.10, 3.50, 3.85, and
6 3.155 as follows:

7 (210 ILCS 50/3.10)

8 Sec. 3.10. Scope of services.

9 (a) "Advanced Life Support (ALS) Services" means an
10 advanced level of pre-hospital and inter-hospital emergency
11 care and non-emergency medical services that includes basic
12 life support care, cardiac monitoring, cardiac defibrillation,
13 electrocardiography, intravenous therapy, administration of
14 medications, drugs and solutions, use of adjunctive medical
15 devices, trauma care, and other authorized techniques and
16 procedures, as outlined in the provisions of the National EMS

1 Education Standards relating to Advanced Life Support and any
2 modifications to that curriculum specified in rules adopted by
3 the Department pursuant to this Act.

4 That care shall be initiated as authorized by the EMS
5 Medical Director in a Department approved advanced life
6 support EMS System, under the written or verbal direction of a
7 physician licensed to practice medicine in all of its branches
8 or under the verbal direction of an Emergency Communications
9 Registered Nurse.

10 (b) "Intermediate Life Support (ILS) Services" means an
11 intermediate level of pre-hospital and inter-hospital
12 emergency care and non-emergency medical services that
13 includes basic life support care plus intravenous cannulation
14 and fluid therapy, invasive airway management, trauma care,
15 and other authorized techniques and procedures, as outlined in
16 the Intermediate Life Support national curriculum of the
17 United States Department of Transportation and any
18 modifications to that curriculum specified in rules adopted by
19 the Department pursuant to this Act.

20 That care shall be initiated as authorized by the EMS
21 Medical Director in a Department approved intermediate or
22 advanced life support EMS System, under the written or verbal
23 direction of a physician licensed to practice medicine in all
24 of its branches or under the verbal direction of an Emergency
25 Communications Registered Nurse.

26 (c) "Basic Life Support (BLS) Services" means a basic

1 level of pre-hospital and inter-hospital emergency care and
2 non-emergency medical services that includes medical
3 monitoring, clinical observation, airway management,
4 cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), control of shock and
5 bleeding and splinting of fractures, as outlined in the
6 provisions of the National EMS Education Standards relating to
7 Basic Life Support and any modifications to that curriculum
8 specified in rules adopted by the Department pursuant to this
9 Act.

10 That care shall be initiated, where authorized by the EMS
11 Medical Director in a Department approved EMS System, under
12 the written or verbal direction of a physician licensed to
13 practice medicine in all of its branches or under the verbal
14 direction of an Emergency Communications Registered Nurse.

15 (d) "Emergency Medical Responder Services" means a
16 preliminary level of pre-hospital emergency care that includes
17 cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), monitoring vital signs
18 and control of bleeding, as outlined in the Emergency Medical
19 Responder (EMR) curriculum of the National EMS Education
20 Standards and any modifications to that curriculum specified
21 in rules adopted by the Department pursuant to this Act.

22 (e) "Pre-hospital care" means those medical services
23 rendered to patients for analytic, resuscitative, stabilizing,
24 or preventive purposes, precedent to and during transportation
25 of such patients to health care facilities.

26 (f) "Inter-hospital care" means those medical services

1 rendered to patients for analytic, resuscitative, stabilizing,
2 or preventive purposes, during transportation of such patients
3 from one hospital to another hospital.

4 (f-5) "Critical care transport" means the pre-hospital or
5 inter-hospital transportation of a critically injured or ill
6 patient by a vehicle service provider, including the provision
7 of medically necessary supplies and services, at a level of
8 service beyond the scope of the Paramedic. When medically
9 indicated for a patient, as determined by a physician licensed
10 to practice medicine in all of its branches, an advanced
11 practice registered nurse, or a physician's assistant, in
12 compliance with subsections (b) and (c) of Section 3.155 of
13 this Act, critical care transport may be provided by:

14 (1) Department-approved critical care transport
15 providers, not owned or operated by a hospital, utilizing
16 Paramedics with additional training, nurses, or other
17 qualified health professionals; or

18 (2) Hospitals, when utilizing any vehicle service
19 provider or any hospital-owned or operated vehicle service
20 provider. Nothing in Public Act 96-1469 requires a
21 hospital to use, or to be, a Department-approved critical
22 care transport provider when transporting patients,
23 including those critically injured or ill. Nothing in this
24 Act shall restrict or prohibit a hospital from providing,
25 or arranging for, the medically appropriate transport of
26 any patient, as determined by a physician licensed to

1 practice in all of its branches, an advanced practice
2 registered nurse, or a physician's assistant.

3 (g) "Non-emergency medical services" means the provision
4 of, and all actions necessary before and after the provision
5 of, Basic Life Support (BLS) Services, Advanced Life Support
6 (ALS) Services, and critical care transport ~~medical care,~~
7 ~~clinical observation, or medical monitoring rendered~~ to
8 patients whose conditions do not meet this Act's definition of
9 emergency, before, after, or during transportation of such
10 patients to or from health care facilities visited for the
11 purpose of obtaining medical or health care services which are
12 not emergency in nature, using a vehicle regulated by this Act
13 and personnel licensed under this Act.

14 (g-5) The Department shall have the authority to
15 promulgate minimum standards for critical care transport
16 providers through rules adopted pursuant to this Act. All
17 critical care transport providers must function within a
18 Department-approved EMS System. Nothing in Department rules
19 shall restrict a hospital's ability to furnish personnel,
20 equipment, and medical supplies to any vehicle service
21 provider, including a critical care transport provider.
22 Minimum critical care transport provider standards shall
23 include, but are not limited to:

- 24 (1) Personnel staffing and licensure.
25 (2) Education, certification, and experience.
26 (3) Medical equipment and supplies.

1 (4) Vehicular standards.

2 (5) Treatment and transport protocols.

3 (6) Quality assurance and data collection.

4 (h) The provisions of this Act shall not apply to the use
5 of an ambulance or SEMSV, unless and until emergency or
6 non-emergency medical services are needed during the use of
7 the ambulance or SEMSV.

8 (Source: P.A. 99-661, eff. 1-1-17; 100-513, eff. 1-1-18.)

9 (210 ILCS 50/3.50)

10 Sec. 3.50. Emergency Medical Services personnel licensure
11 levels.

12 (a) "Emergency Medical Technician" or "EMT" means a person
13 who has successfully completed a course in basic life support
14 as approved by the Department, is currently licensed by the
15 Department in accordance with standards prescribed by this Act
16 and rules adopted by the Department pursuant to this Act, and
17 practices within an EMS System. A valid Emergency Medical
18 Technician-Basic (EMT-B) license issued under this Act shall
19 continue to be valid and shall be recognized as an Emergency
20 Medical Technician (EMT) license until the Emergency Medical
21 Technician-Basic (EMT-B) license expires.

22 (b) "Emergency Medical Technician-Intermediate" or "EMT-I"
23 means a person who has successfully completed a course in
24 intermediate life support as approved by the Department, is
25 currently licensed by the Department in accordance with

1 standards prescribed by this Act and rules adopted by the
2 Department pursuant to this Act, and practices within an
3 Intermediate or Advanced Life Support EMS System.

4 (b-5) "Advanced Emergency Medical Technician" or "A-EMT"
5 means a person who has successfully completed a course in
6 basic and limited advanced emergency medical care as approved
7 by the Department, is currently licensed by the Department in
8 accordance with standards prescribed by this Act and rules
9 adopted by the Department pursuant to this Act, and practices
10 within an Intermediate or Advanced Life Support EMS System.

11 (c) "Paramedic (EMT-P)" means a person who has
12 successfully completed a course in advanced life support care
13 as approved by the Department, is licensed by the Department
14 in accordance with standards prescribed by this Act and rules
15 adopted by the Department pursuant to this Act, and practices
16 within an Advanced Life Support EMS System. A valid Emergency
17 Medical Technician-Paramedic (EMT-P) license issued under this
18 Act shall continue to be valid and shall be recognized as a
19 Paramedic license until the Emergency Medical
20 Technician-Paramedic (EMT-P) license expires.

21 (c-5) "Emergency Medical Responder" or "EMR (First
22 Responder)" means a person who has successfully completed a
23 course in emergency medical response as approved by the
24 Department and provides emergency medical response services
25 ~~prior to the arrival of an ambulance or specialized emergency~~
26 ~~medical services vehicle,~~ in accordance with the level of care

1 established by the National EMS Educational Standards
2 Emergency Medical Responder course as modified by the
3 Department, or who. ~~An Emergency Medical Responder who~~
4 provides services as part of an EMS System response plan ~~shall~~
5 ~~comply with the applicable sections of the Program Plan,~~ as
6 approved by the Department, of that EMS System. The Department
7 shall have the authority to adopt rules governing the
8 curriculum, practice, and necessary equipment applicable to
9 Emergency Medical Responders.

10 On August 15, 2014 (the effective date of Public Act
11 98-973), a person who is licensed by the Department as a First
12 Responder and has completed a Department-approved course in
13 first responder defibrillator training based on, or equivalent
14 to, the National EMS Educational Standards or other standards
15 previously recognized by the Department shall be eligible for
16 licensure as an Emergency Medical Responder upon meeting the
17 licensure requirements and submitting an application to the
18 Department. A valid First Responder license issued under this
19 Act shall continue to be valid and shall be recognized as an
20 Emergency Medical Responder license until the First Responder
21 license expires.

22 (c-10) All EMS Systems and licensees shall be fully
23 compliant with the National EMS Education Standards, as
24 modified by the Department in administrative rules, within 24
25 months after the adoption of the administrative rules.

26 (d) The Department shall have the authority and

1 responsibility to:

2 (1) Prescribe education and training requirements,
3 which includes training in the use of epinephrine, for all
4 levels of EMS personnel except for EMRs, based on the
5 National EMS Educational Standards and any modifications
6 to those curricula specified by the Department through
7 rules adopted pursuant to this Act.

8 (2) Prescribe licensure testing requirements for all
9 levels of EMS personnel, which shall include a requirement
10 that all phases of instruction, training, and field
11 experience be completed before taking the appropriate
12 licensure examination. Candidates may elect to take the
13 appropriate National Registry examination in lieu of the
14 Department's examination, but are responsible for making
15 their own arrangements for taking the National Registry
16 examination. In prescribing licensure testing requirements
17 for honorably discharged members of the armed forces of
18 the United States under this paragraph (2), the Department
19 shall ensure that a candidate's military emergency medical
20 training, emergency medical curriculum completed, and
21 clinical experience, as described in paragraph (2.5), are
22 recognized.

23 (2.5) Review applications for EMS personnel licensure
24 from honorably discharged members of the armed forces of
25 the United States with military emergency medical
26 training. Applications shall be filed with the Department

1 within one year after military discharge and shall
2 contain: (i) proof of successful completion of military
3 emergency medical training; (ii) a detailed description of
4 the emergency medical curriculum completed; and (iii) a
5 detailed description of the applicant's clinical
6 experience. The Department may request additional and
7 clarifying information. The Department shall evaluate the
8 application, including the applicant's training and
9 experience, consistent with the standards set forth under
10 subsections (a), (b), (c), and (d) of Section 3.10. If the
11 application clearly demonstrates that the training and
12 experience meet such standards, the Department shall offer
13 the applicant the opportunity to successfully complete a
14 Department-approved EMS personnel examination for the
15 level of license for which the applicant is qualified.
16 Upon passage of an examination, the Department shall issue
17 a license, which shall be subject to all provisions of
18 this Act that are otherwise applicable to the level of EMS
19 personnel license issued.

20 (3) License individuals as an EMR, EMT, EMT-I, A-EMT,
21 or Paramedic who have met the Department's education,
22 training and examination requirements.

23 (4) Prescribe annual continuing education and
24 relicensure requirements for all EMS personnel licensure
25 levels.

26 (5) Relicense individuals as an EMD, EMR, EMT, EMT-I,

1 A-EMT, PHRN, PHAPRN, PHPA, or Paramedic every 4 years,
2 based on their compliance with continuing education and
3 relicensure requirements as required by the Department
4 pursuant to this Act. Every 4 years, a Paramedic shall
5 have 100 hours of approved continuing education, an EMT-I
6 and an advanced EMT shall have 80 hours of approved
7 continuing education, and an EMT shall have 60 hours of
8 approved continuing education. An Illinois licensed EMR,
9 EMD, EMT, EMT-I, A-EMT, Paramedic, ECRN, PHPA, PHAPRN, or
10 PHRN whose license has been expired for less than 36
11 months may apply for reinstatement by the Department.
12 Reinstatement shall require that the applicant (i) submit
13 satisfactory proof of completion of continuing medical
14 education and clinical requirements to be prescribed by
15 the Department in an administrative rule; (ii) submit a
16 positive recommendation from an Illinois EMS Medical
17 Director attesting to the applicant's qualifications for
18 retesting; and (iii) pass a Department approved test for
19 the level of EMS personnel license sought to be
20 reinstated.

21 (6) Grant inactive status to any EMR, EMD, EMT, EMT-I,
22 A-EMT, Paramedic, ECRN, PHAPRN, PHPA, or PHRN who
23 qualifies, based on standards and procedures established
24 by the Department in rules adopted pursuant to this Act.

25 (7) Charge a fee for EMS personnel examination,
26 licensure, and license renewal.

1 (8) Suspend, revoke, or refuse to issue or renew the
2 license of any licensee, after an opportunity for an
3 impartial hearing before a neutral administrative law
4 judge appointed by the Director, where the preponderance
5 of the evidence shows one or more of the following:

6 (A) The licensee has not met continuing education
7 or relicensure requirements as prescribed by the
8 Department;

9 (B) The licensee has failed to maintain
10 proficiency in the level of skills for which he or she
11 is licensed;

12 (C) The licensee, during the provision of medical
13 services, engaged in dishonorable, unethical, or
14 unprofessional conduct of a character likely to
15 deceive, defraud, or harm the public;

16 (D) The licensee has failed to maintain or has
17 violated standards of performance and conduct as
18 prescribed by the Department in rules adopted pursuant
19 to this Act or his or her EMS System's Program Plan;

20 (E) The licensee is physically impaired to the
21 extent that he or she cannot physically perform the
22 skills and functions for which he or she is licensed,
23 as verified by a physician, unless the person is on
24 inactive status pursuant to Department regulations;

25 (F) The licensee is mentally impaired to the
26 extent that he or she cannot exercise the appropriate

1 judgment, skill and safety for performing the
2 functions for which he or she is licensed, as verified
3 by a physician, unless the person is on inactive
4 status pursuant to Department regulations;

5 (G) The licensee has violated this Act or any rule
6 adopted by the Department pursuant to this Act; or

7 (H) The licensee has been convicted (or entered a
8 plea of guilty or nolo contendere ~~nolo contendere~~) by
9 a court of competent jurisdiction of a Class X, Class
10 1, or Class 2 felony in this State or an out-of-state
11 equivalent offense.

12 (9) Prescribe education and training requirements in
13 the administration and use of opioid antagonists for all
14 levels of EMS personnel based on the National EMS
15 Educational Standards and any modifications to those
16 curricula specified by the Department through rules
17 adopted pursuant to this Act.

18 (d-5) An EMR, EMD, EMT, EMT-I, A-EMT, Paramedic, ECRN,
19 PHAPRN, PHPA, or PHRN who is a member of the Illinois National
20 Guard or an Illinois State Trooper or who exclusively serves
21 as a volunteer for units of local government with a population
22 base of less than 5,000 or as a volunteer for a not-for-profit
23 organization that serves a service area with a population base
24 of less than 5,000 may submit an application to the Department
25 for a waiver of the fees described under paragraph (7) of
26 subsection (d) of this Section on a form prescribed by the

1 Department.

2 The education requirements prescribed by the Department
3 under this Section must allow for the suspension of those
4 requirements in the case of a member of the armed services or
5 reserve forces of the United States or a member of the Illinois
6 National Guard who is on active duty pursuant to an executive
7 order of the President of the United States, an act of the
8 Congress of the United States, or an order of the Governor at
9 the time that the member would otherwise be required to
10 fulfill a particular education requirement. Such a person must
11 fulfill the education requirement within 6 months after his or
12 her release from active duty.

13 (e) In the event that any rule of the Department or an EMS
14 Medical Director that requires testing for drug use as a
15 condition of the applicable EMS personnel license conflicts
16 with or duplicates a provision of a collective bargaining
17 agreement that requires testing for drug use, that rule shall
18 not apply to any person covered by the collective bargaining
19 agreement.

20 (f) At the time of applying for or renewing his or her
21 license, an applicant for a license or license renewal may
22 submit an email address to the Department. The Department
23 shall keep the email address on file as a form of contact for
24 the individual. The Department shall send license renewal
25 notices electronically and by mail to a licensee ~~all licensees~~
26 who provides ~~provide~~ the Department with his or her email

1 address. The notices shall be sent at least 60 days prior to
2 the expiration date of the license.

3 (Source: P.A. 100-1082, eff. 8-24-19; 101-81, eff. 7-12-19;
4 101-153, eff. 1-1-20; revised 12-3-19.)

5 (210 ILCS 50/3.85)

6 Sec. 3.85. Vehicle Service Providers.

7 (a) "Vehicle Service Provider" means an entity licensed by
8 the Department to provide emergency or non-emergency medical
9 services in compliance with this Act, the rules promulgated by
10 the Department pursuant to this Act, and an operational plan
11 approved by its EMS System(s), utilizing at least ambulances
12 or specialized emergency medical service vehicles (SEMSV).

13 (1) "Ambulance" means any publicly or privately owned
14 on-road vehicle that is specifically designed, constructed
15 or modified and equipped, and is intended to be used for,
16 and is maintained or operated for the emergency
17 transportation of persons who are sick, injured, wounded
18 or otherwise incapacitated or helpless, or the
19 non-emergency medical transportation of persons who
20 require the presence of medical personnel to monitor the
21 individual's condition or medical apparatus being used on
22 such individuals.

23 (2) "Specialized Emergency Medical Services Vehicle"
24 or "SEMSV" means a vehicle or conveyance, other than those
25 owned or operated by the federal government, that is

1 primarily intended for use in transporting the sick or
2 injured by means of air, water, or ground transportation,
3 that is not an ambulance as defined in this Act. The term
4 includes watercraft, aircraft and special purpose ground
5 transport vehicles or conveyances not intended for use on
6 public roads.

7 (3) An ambulance or SEMSV may also be designated as a
8 Limited Operation Vehicle or Special-Use Vehicle:

9 (A) "Limited Operation Vehicle" means a vehicle
10 which is licensed by the Department to provide basic,
11 intermediate or advanced life support emergency or
12 non-emergency medical services that are exclusively
13 limited to specific events or locales.

14 (B) "Special-Use Vehicle" means any publicly or
15 privately owned vehicle that is specifically designed,
16 constructed or modified and equipped, and is intended
17 to be used for, and is maintained or operated solely
18 for the emergency or non-emergency transportation of a
19 specific medical class or category of persons who are
20 sick, injured, wounded or otherwise incapacitated or
21 helpless (e.g. high-risk obstetrical patients,
22 neonatal patients).

23 (C) "Reserve Ambulance" means a vehicle that meets
24 all criteria set forth in this Section and all
25 Department rules, except for the required inventory of
26 medical supplies and durable medical equipment, which

1 may be rapidly transferred from a fully functional
2 ambulance to a reserve ambulance without the use of
3 tools or special mechanical expertise.

4 (b) The Department shall have the authority and
5 responsibility to:

6 (1) Require all Vehicle Service Providers, both
7 publicly and privately owned, to function within an EMS
8 System.

9 (2) Require a Vehicle Service Provider utilizing
10 ambulances to have a primary affiliation with an EMS
11 System within the EMS Region in which its Primary Service
12 Area is located, which is the geographic areas in which
13 the provider renders the majority of its emergency
14 responses. This requirement shall not apply to Vehicle
15 Service Providers which exclusively utilize Limited
16 Operation Vehicles.

17 (3) Establish licensing standards and requirements for
18 Vehicle Service Providers, through rules adopted pursuant
19 to this Act, including but not limited to:

20 (A) Vehicle design, specification, operation and
21 maintenance standards, including standards for the use
22 of reserve ambulances;

23 (B) Equipment requirements;

24 (C) Staffing requirements; and

25 (D) License renewal at intervals determined by the
26 Department, which shall be not less than every 4

1 years.

2 The Department's standards and requirements with
3 respect to vehicle staffing for private, nonpublic local
4 government employers must allow for ~~an alternative rural~~
5 staffing models that include an EMR who drives an
6 ambulance with a licensed EMT, EMT-I, A-EMT, Paramedic, or
7 PHRN, as appropriate, in the patient compartment providing
8 care to the patient pursuant to protocols developed by the
9 EMS Director for an EMS System ~~model for those vehicle~~
10 ~~service providers that serve a rural or semi-rural~~
11 ~~population of 10,000 or fewer inhabitants and exclusively~~
12 ~~uses volunteers, paid on call, or a combination thereof.~~

13 (4) License all Vehicle Service Providers that have
14 met the Department's requirements for licensure, unless
15 such Provider is owned or licensed by the federal
16 government. All Provider licenses issued by the Department
17 shall specify the level and type of each vehicle covered
18 by the license (BLS, ILS, ALS, ambulance, SEMSV, limited
19 operation vehicle, special use vehicle, reserve
20 ambulance).

21 (5) Annually inspect all licensed vehicles operated by
22 Vehicle Service Providers.

23 (6) Suspend, revoke, refuse to issue or refuse to
24 renew the license of any Vehicle Service Provider, or that
25 portion of a license pertaining to a specific vehicle
26 operated by the Provider, after an opportunity for a

1 hearing, when findings show that the Provider or one or
2 more of its vehicles has failed to comply with the
3 standards and requirements of this Act or rules adopted by
4 the Department pursuant to this Act.

5 (7) Issue an Emergency Suspension Order for any
6 Provider or vehicle licensed under this Act, when the
7 Director or his designee has determined that an immediate
8 and serious danger to the public health, safety and
9 welfare exists. Suspension or revocation proceedings which
10 offer an opportunity for hearing shall be promptly
11 initiated after the Emergency Suspension Order has been
12 issued.

13 (8) Exempt any licensed vehicle from subsequent
14 vehicle design standards or specifications required by the
15 Department, as long as said vehicle is continuously in
16 compliance with the vehicle design standards and
17 specifications originally applicable to that vehicle, or
18 until said vehicle's title of ownership is transferred.

19 (9) Exempt any vehicle (except an SEMSV) which was
20 being used as an ambulance on or before December 15, 1980,
21 from vehicle design standards and specifications required
22 by the Department, until said vehicle's title of ownership
23 is transferred. Such vehicles shall not be exempt from all
24 other licensing standards and requirements prescribed by
25 the Department.

26 (10) Prohibit any Vehicle Service Provider from

1 advertising, identifying its vehicles, or disseminating
2 information in a false or misleading manner concerning the
3 Provider's type and level of vehicles, location, primary
4 service area, response times, level of personnel,
5 licensure status or System participation.

6 (10.5) Prohibit any Vehicle Service Provider, whether
7 municipal, private, or hospital-owned, from advertising
8 itself as a critical care transport provider unless it
9 participates in a Department-approved EMS System critical
10 care transport plan.

11 (11) Charge each Vehicle Service Provider a fee per
12 transport vehicle, due annually at time of inspection. The
13 fee per transport vehicle shall be set by administrative
14 rule by the Department and shall not exceed 100 vehicles
15 per provider.

16 (Source: P.A. 97-333, eff. 8-12-11; 97-1014, eff. 1-1-13;
17 98-452, eff. 1-1-14.)

18 (210 ILCS 50/3.155)

19 Sec. 3.155. General Provisions.

20 (a) Authority and responsibility for the EMS System shall
21 be vested in the EMS Resource Hospital, through the EMS
22 Medical Director or his designee.

23 (b) For an inter-hospital emergency or non-emergency
24 medical transport, in which the physician from the sending
25 hospital provides the EMS personnel with written medical

1 orders, such written medical orders cannot exceed the scope of
2 care which the EMS personnel are authorized to render pursuant
3 to this Act.

4 (c) For an inter-hospital emergency or non-emergency
5 medical transport of a patient who requires medical care
6 beyond the scope of care which the EMS personnel are
7 authorized to render pursuant to this Act, a qualified
8 physician, nurse, perfusionist, or respiratory therapist
9 familiar with the scope of care needed must accompany the
10 patient and the transferring hospital and physician shall
11 assume medical responsibility for that portion of the medical
12 care.

13 (d) No emergency medical services vehicles or personnel
14 from another State or nation may be utilized on a regular basis
15 to pick up and transport patients within this State without
16 first complying with this Act and all rules adopted by the
17 Department pursuant to this Act.

18 (e) This Act shall not prevent emergency medical services
19 vehicles or personnel from another State or nation from
20 rendering requested assistance in this State in a disaster
21 situation, or operating from a location outside the State and
22 occasionally transporting patients into this State for needed
23 medical care. Except as provided in Section 31 of this Act,
24 this Act shall not provide immunity from liability for such
25 activities.

26 (f) Except as provided in subsection (e) of this Section,

1 no person or entity shall transport emergency or non-emergency
2 patients by ambulance, SEMSV, or medical carrier without first
3 complying with the provisions of this Act and all rules
4 adopted pursuant to this Act.

5 (g) Nothing in this Act or the rules adopted by the
6 Department under this Act shall be construed to authorize any
7 medical treatment to or transportation of any person who
8 objects on religious grounds.

9 (h) Patients, individuals who accompany a patient, and
10 emergency medical services personnel may not smoke while
11 inside an ambulance or SEMSV. The Department of Public Health
12 may impose a civil penalty on an individual who violates this
13 subsection in the amount of \$100.

14 (i) When a patient has been determined by EMS personnel to
15 (1) have no immediate life-threatening injuries or illness,
16 (2) not be under the influence of drugs or alcohol, (3) have no
17 immediate or obvious need for transport to an emergency
18 department, and (4) have an immediate need for transport to an
19 EMS System-approved mental health facility, the EMS personnel
20 may contact Online Medical Control or his or her EMS Medical
21 Director or Emergency Communications Registered Nurse to
22 request bypass or diversion of the closest emergency
23 department, as outlined in paragraph (5) of subsection (c) of
24 Section 3.20, and request transport to the closest or
25 appropriate EMS System-approved mental health facility. In
26 addition, EMS personnel may transport a patient to an EMS

1 System-approved urgent care or immediate care facility that
2 meets the proper criteria and is approved by Online Medical
3 Control or his or her EMS Medical Director or Emergency
4 Communications Registered Nurse.

5 (Source: P.A. 92-376, eff. 8-15-01.)".