

HOUSE BILL No. 2435

By Committee on Appropriations

3-16

1 AN ACT concerning emergency medical services; recognizing public
2 safety telecommunicators as emergency responders; amending K.S.A.
3 2020 Supp. 48-949 and repealing the existing section.
4

5 *Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Kansas:*

6 New Section 1. (a) The purpose of this section is to recognize public
7 safety telecommunicators as emergency responders in Kansas. The
8 inclusion of public safety telecommunicators as emergency responders, as
9 evident in day-to-day operational functions of the position, shall be applied
10 wherever necessitated and appropriate in legislative and administrative
11 contexts.

12 (b) As used in this section, "public safety telecommunicator" means a
13 person employed by a public safety answering point or emergency service
14 provider as a public safety telecommunicator or 911 operator whose duties
15 and responsibilities include the answering, receiving, transferring and
16 dispatching functions related to 911 calls and texts and the deployment of
17 law enforcement officers, fire rescue services, emergency medical services
18 and other public safety services to the scene of an emergency.

19 Sec. 2. K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 48-949 is hereby amended to read as
20 follows: 48-949. As used in this act:

21 (a) "Division" means the division of emergency management within
22 the office of the adjutant general.

23 (b) "Emergency responder" means any person in the public or private
24 sector who: (1) Has special skills, qualifications, training, knowledge and
25 experience which would be beneficial to a participating political
26 subdivision in response to a locally-declared emergency as defined in any
27 applicable law or ordinance or authorized drill or exercises; and (2) is
28 requested or authorized, or both, to respond. An emergency responder may
29 or may not be required to possess a license, certificate, permit or other
30 official recognition for the emergency responder's expertise in a particular
31 field or area of knowledge. "Emergency responder" may include, but is not
32 limited to, the following: Law enforcement officers, ~~fire fighters~~
33 *firefighters*, emergency medical services personnel, *public safety*
34 *telecommunicators, as defined in section 1, and amendments thereto*,
35 physicians, nurses, public health personnel, emergency management
36 personnel, public works personnel and persons with skills or training in

1 operating specialized equipment or other skills needed to provide aid in a
2 declared emergency.

3 Sec. 3. K.S.A. 2020 Supp. 48-949 is hereby repealed.

4 Sec. 4. This act shall take effect and be in force from and after its
5 publication in the statute book.