

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 55th Legislature (2016)

3 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE
4 FOR ENGROSSED
5 HOUSE BILL 2742

By: Cox of the House

and

Standridge of the Senate

6
7
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9 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE

10 An Act relating to public health and safety; amending
11 63 O.S. 2011, Section 1-2503, as last amended by
12 Section 65, Chapter 229, O.S.L. 2013 (63 O.S. Supp.
13 2015, Section 1-2503), which relates to definitions;
14 modifying and adding certain definitions; amending 63
15 O.S. 2011, Section 1-2504, as amended by Section 2,
16 Chapter 23, O.S.L. 2013 (63 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section
17 1-2504), which relates to the utilization of
18 emergency medical personnel; adding certain personnel
19 that may be utilized; amending 63 O.S. 2011, Section
20 1-2505, as amended by Section 3, Chapter 23, O.S.L.
21 2013 (63 O.S. Supp. 2015, Section 1-2505), which
22 relates to levels of care; adding certain definition;
23 requiring State Board of Health to promulgate certain
24 rules; providing for codification; and providing an
effective date.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

SECTION 1. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2011, Section 1-2503, as
last amended by Section 65, Chapter 229, O.S.L. 2013 (63 O.S. Supp.
2015, Section 1-2503), is amended to read as follows:

1 Section 1-2503. As used in the Oklahoma Emergency Response
2 Systems Development Act:

3 1. "Ambulance" means any ground, air or water vehicle which is
4 or should be approved by the Commissioner of Health, designed and
5 equipped to transport a patient or patients and to provide
6 appropriate on-scene and en route patient stabilization and care as
7 required. Vehicles used as ambulances shall meet such standards as
8 may be required by the State Board of Health for approval, and shall
9 display evidence of such approval at all times;

10 2. "Ambulance authority" means any public trust or nonprofit
11 corporation established by the state or any unit of local government
12 or combination of units of government for the express purpose of
13 providing, directly or by contract, emergency medical services in a
14 specified area of the state;

15 3. "Ambulance patient" or "patient" means any person who is or
16 will be transported in a reclining position to or from a health care
17 facility in an ambulance;

18 4. "Ambulance service" means any private firm or governmental
19 agency which is or should be licensed by the State Department of
20 Health to provide levels of medical care, including but not limited
21 to comprehensive integrated medical care in emergency and
22 nonemergency settings under the supervision of a physician, based on
23 certification standards promulgated by the Board;

24

1 5. "Ambulance service district" means any county, group of
2 counties or parts of counties formed together to provide, operate
3 and finance emergency medical services as provided by Section 9C of
4 Article X of the Oklahoma Constitution or Sections 1201 through 1221
5 of Title 19 of the Oklahoma Statutes;

6 6. "Board" means the State Board of Health;

7 7. "Certified emergency medical responder" means an individual
8 certified by the Department to perform emergency medical services in
9 accordance with the Oklahoma Emergency Response Systems Development
10 Act and in accordance with the rules and standards promulgated by
11 the Board;

12 8. "Certified emergency medical response agency" means an
13 organization of any type certified by the Department to provide
14 emergency medical care, but not transport. Certified emergency
15 medical response agencies may utilize certified emergency medical
16 responders or licensed emergency medical personnel; provided,
17 however, that all personnel so utilized shall function under the
18 direction of and consistent with guidelines for medical control;

19 9. "Classification" means an inclusive standardized
20 identification of stabilizing and definitive emergency services
21 provided by each hospital that treats emergency patients;

22 10. "CoAEMSP" means the Committee on Accreditation of
23 Educational Programs for the Emergency Medical Services Professions;

24 11. "Commissioner" means the State Commissioner of Health;

1 12. "Community paramedic" means a licensed paramedic who meets
2 the requirements of Section 1-2505 of this title;

3 13. "Community paramedic services" means services that include
4 interventions intended to prevent unnecessary ambulance
5 transportation or hospital emergency department use.

6 a. Community paramedic services must be part of a care
7 plan ordered by a primary health care provider or a
8 hospital provider in consultation with the medical
9 director of an ambulance service. Such care plan must
10 ensure that the services provided by a community
11 paramedic do not duplicate services already provided
12 to the patient, including home health and waiver
13 services.

14 b. Community paramedic services shall include health
15 assessment, chronic disease monitoring and education,
16 medication compliance, immunizations and vaccinations,
17 laboratory specimen collection, hospital discharge
18 follow-up care and minor medical procedures compliant
19 with the community paramedic's scope of practice and
20 approved by the ambulance medical director;

21 14. "Council" means the Trauma and Emergency Response Advisory
22 Council created in Section 44 1-103a.1 of this act title;

23 ~~13.~~ 15. "Critical care paramedic" or "CCP" means a licensed
24 paramedic who has successfully completed critical care training and

1 testing requirements in accordance with the Oklahoma Emergency
2 Response Systems Development Act and in accordance with the rules
3 and standards promulgated by the Board;

4 ~~14.~~ 16. "Department" means the State Department of Health;

5 ~~15.~~ 17. "Emergency medical services system" means a system
6 which provides for the organization and appropriate designation of
7 personnel, facilities and equipment for the effective and
8 coordinated local, regional and statewide delivery of health care
9 services primarily under emergency conditions;

10 ~~16.~~ 18. "Letter of review" means the official designation from
11 CoAEMSP to a paramedic program that is in the "becoming accredited"
12 process;

13 ~~17.~~ 19. "Licensed emergency medical personnel" means an
14 emergency medical technician (EMT), an intermediate emergency
15 medical technician (IEMT), an advanced emergency medical technician
16 (AEMT), or a paramedic licensed by the Department to perform
17 emergency medical services in accordance with the Oklahoma Emergency
18 Response Systems Development Act and the rules and standards
19 promulgated by the Board;

20 ~~18.~~ 20. "Licensure" means the licensing of emergency medical
21 care providers and ambulance services pursuant to rules and
22 standards promulgated by the Board at one or more of the following
23 levels:

24 a. ~~Basic~~ basic life support,

- 1 b. ~~Intermediate~~ intermediate life support,
2 c. ~~Paramedic~~ paramedic life support,
3 d. ~~Advanced~~ advanced life support,
4 e. ~~Stretcher~~ stretcher aid van, and
5 f. ~~Specialty~~ specialty care, which shall be used solely
6 for interhospital transport of patients requiring
7 specialized en route medical monitoring and advanced
8 life support which exceed the capabilities of the
9 equipment and personnel provided by paramedic life
10 support.

11 Requirements for each level of care shall be established by the
12 Board. Licensure at any level of care includes a license to operate
13 at any lower level, with the exception of licensure for specialty
14 care; provided, however, that the highest level of care offered by
15 an ambulance service shall be available twenty-four (24) hours each
16 day, three hundred sixty-five (365) days per year.

17 Licensure shall be granted or renewed for such periods and under
18 such terms and conditions as may be promulgated by the Board;

19 ~~19.~~ 21. "Medical control" means local, regional or statewide
20 medical direction and quality assurance of health care delivery in
21 an emergency medical service system. On-line medical control is the
22 medical direction given to licensed emergency medical personnel,
23 certified emergency medical responders and stretcher aid van
24 personnel by a physician via radio or telephone. Off-line medical

1 control is the establishment and monitoring of all medical
2 components of an emergency medical service system, which is to
3 include stretcher aid van service including, but not limited to,
4 protocols, standing orders, educational programs, and the quality
5 and delivery of on-line control;

6 ~~20.~~ 22. "Medical director" means a physician, fully licensed
7 without restriction, who acts as a paid or volunteer medical advisor
8 to a licensed ambulance service and who monitors and directs the
9 care so provided. Such physicians shall meet such qualifications
10 and requirements as may be promulgated by the Board;

11 ~~21.~~ 23. "Region" or "emergency medical service region" means
12 two or more municipalities, counties, ambulance districts or other
13 political subdivisions exercising joint control over one or more
14 providers of emergency medical services and stretcher aid van
15 service through common ordinances, authorities, boards or other
16 means;

17 ~~22.~~ 24. "Regional emergency medical services system" means a
18 network of organizations, individuals, facilities and equipment
19 which serves a region, subject to a unified set of regional rules
20 and standards which may exceed, but may not be in contravention of,
21 those required by the state, which is under the medical direction of
22 a single regional medical director, and which participates directly
23 in the delivery of the following services:

24

- 1 a. medical call-taking and emergency medical services
2 dispatching, emergency and routine, including priority
3 dispatching of first response agencies, stretcher aid
4 van and ambulances,
5 b. emergency medical responder services provided by
6 emergency medical response agencies,
7 c. ambulance services, both emergency, routine and
8 stretcher aid van including, but not limited to, the
9 transport of patients in accordance with transport
10 protocols approved by the regional medical director,
11 and
12 d. directions given by physicians directly via radio or
13 telephone, or by written protocol, to emergency
14 medical response agencies, stretcher aid van or
15 ambulance personnel at the scene of an emergency or
16 while en route to a hospital;

17 ~~23.~~ 25. "Regional medical director" means a licensed physician,
18 who meets or exceeds the qualifications of a medical director as
19 defined by the Oklahoma Emergency Response Systems Development Act,
20 chosen by an emergency medical service region to provide external
21 medical oversight, quality control and related services to that
22 region;

1 ~~24.~~ 26. "Registration" means the listing of an ambulance
2 service in a registry maintained by the Department; provided,
3 however, registration shall not be deemed to be a license;

4 ~~25.~~ 27. "Stretcher aid van" means any ground vehicle which is
5 or should be approved by the State Commissioner of Health, which is
6 designed and equipped to transport individuals on a stretcher or
7 gurney type apparatus. Vehicles used as stretcher aid vans shall
8 meet such standards as may be required by the State Board of Health
9 for approval and shall display evidence of such approval at all
10 times. Stretcher aid van services shall only be permitted and
11 approved by the Commissioner in emergency medical service regions,
12 ambulance service districts, or counties with populations in excess
13 of ~~300,000~~ four hundred thousand (400,000) people. Notwithstanding
14 the provisions of this paragraph, stretcher aid van transports may
15 be made to and from any federal or state veterans facility;

16 ~~26.~~ 28. "Stretcher aid van patient" means any person who is or
17 will be transported in a reclining position on a stretcher or
18 gurney, who is medically stable, nonemergent and does not require
19 any medical monitoring equipment or assistance during transport; and

20 ~~27.~~ 29. "Transport protocol" means the written instructions
21 governing decision-making at the scene of a medical emergency by
22 ambulance personnel regarding the selection of the hospital to which
23 the patient shall be transported. Transport protocols shall be
24 developed by the regional medical director for a regional emergency

1 medical services system or by the Department if no regional
2 emergency medical services system has been established. Such
3 transport protocols shall adhere to, at a minimum, the following
4 guidelines:

- 5 a. nonemergency, routine transport shall be to the
6 facility of the patient's choice,
- 7 b. urgent or emergency transport not involving life-
8 threatening medical illness or injury shall be to the
9 nearest facility, or, subject to transport
10 availability and system area coverage, to the facility
11 of the patient's choice, and
- 12 c. life-threatening medical illness or injury shall
13 require transport to the nearest health care facility
14 appropriate to the needs of the patient as established
15 by regional or state guidelines.

16 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2011, Section 1-2504, as
17 amended by Section 2, Chapter 23, O.S.L. 2013 (63 O.S. Supp. 2015,
18 Section 1-2504), is amended to read as follows:

19 Section 1-2504. A. Any hospital or health care facility
20 operating within the state may utilize ~~Emergency Medical Technician,~~
21 ~~Intermediate, Advanced Emergency Medical Technician or Paramedic or~~
22 ~~Critical Care Paramedic~~ emergency medical technician, intermediate
23 emergency medical technician, advanced emergency medical technician
24 or paramedic, community paramedic or critical care paramedic

1 personnel for the delivery of emergency medical patient care within
2 the hospital or health care facility. All licensed ambulance
3 services shall use ~~Emergency Medical Technician, Intermediate,~~
4 ~~Advanced Emergency Medical Technician~~ emergency medical technician,
5 intermediate emergency medical technician, advanced emergency
6 medical technician or ~~Paramedic~~ paramedic personnel for on-scene
7 patient care and stabilization and the delivery of prehospital and
8 en route emergency medical care.

9 B. Any hospital or health care facility operating within the
10 state may utilize community paramedic personnel for the delivery of
11 community paramedic services for patients who come to the hospital
12 or health care facility who reside in this state.

13 C. While participating in an ~~Emergency Medical Technician,~~
14 ~~Intermediate, Advanced Emergency Medical Technician~~ emergency
15 medical technician, intermediate emergency medical technician,
16 advanced emergency medical technician, community paramedic or
17 ~~Paramedic~~ paramedic training course approved by the State Department
18 of Health, the student shall be allowed to perform in the hospital,
19 clinic or prehospital setting, while under the direct supervision of
20 a physician, registered nurse, or licensed emergency medical
21 personnel who are licensed at a level equal to or above the level of
22 training of the student, or other allied health preceptor, any of
23 the skills determined to be appropriate for the training level of
24 the student by the Department.

1 ~~C.~~ D. The student shall be allowed to perform any of the skills
2 determined to be appropriate by the Department for the training
3 level of the student while performing community paramedic services
4 under the direct supervision of a physician, registered nurse or
5 emergency medical personnel who are licensed at a level equal to or
6 above the level of training of the student, or other allied health
7 preceptor.

8 E. A registered nurse or licensed practical nurse may be used
9 in the back of an ambulance during an interhospital transfer to
10 supplement the skills of licensed emergency medical personnel. A
11 registered nurse or licensed practical nurse functioning in this
12 fashion must be following written orders of a physician or be in
13 direct radio or telephone contact with a physician.

14 SECTION 3. AMENDATORY 63 O.S. 2011, Section 1-2505, as
15 amended by Section 3, Chapter 23, O.S.L. 2013 (63 O.S. Supp. 2015,
16 Section 1-2505), is amended to read as follows:

17 Section 1-2505. Personnel licensed in the following levels of
18 care may perform as designated under their classification:

19 1. "Emergency ~~Medical Technician~~ medical technician (EMT)"
20 means an individual licensed by the State Department of Health
21 following completion of a standard ~~Basic Emergency Medical~~
22 ~~Technician~~ basic emergency medical technician training program
23 approved by the Department, who has met such other standards of
24 competence and character as may be required, and who has passed a

1 standard licensing examination of knowledge and skill, administered
2 by the Department or other entity designated by the Department. The
3 licensed ~~Emergency Medical Technician~~ emergency medical technician
4 is allowed to perform such skills as may be designated by the
5 Department;

6 2. "Intermediate emergency medical technician (IEMT)" means an
7 individual licensed as an EMT, who has completed an intermediate
8 training program approved by the Department, who has met such other
9 standards of competence and character as may be required, and who
10 has passed a standard licensing examination of knowledge and skill
11 administered by the Department or other entity designated by the
12 Department. The ~~Intermediate~~ intermediate emergency medical
13 technician is allowed to perform such skills as may be designated by
14 the Department;

15 3. "Advanced ~~Emergency Medical Technician~~ emergency medical
16 technician (AEMT)" means an individual licensed as an ~~Emergency~~
17 ~~Medical Technician~~ emergency medical technician or ~~Intermediate~~
18 intermediate emergency medical technician who has completed an AEMT
19 training program approved by the Department, who has met such other
20 standards of competence and character as may be required, and who
21 has passed a standard licensing examination of knowledge and skills
22 administered by the Department or other entity designated by the
23 Department. The ~~Advanced Emergency Medical Technician~~ advanced
24

1 emergency medical technician is allowed to perform such skills as
2 may be designated by the Department; and

3 4. "Community paramedic" means an individual who meets the
4 provisions of paragraph 5 of this section and:

5 a. possesses two (2) years of full-time service as a
6 paramedic or its part-time equivalent, and

7 b. completes a training program from an entity approved
8 by the Department; and

9 5. "Paramedic", including community paramedic, means an
10 individual licensed as an EMT, ~~Intermediate~~ IEMT or AEMT, who has
11 completed a standard ~~Paramedic~~ paramedic training program, who has
12 met such other standards of competence and character as may be
13 required, and who has passed a standard licensing examination of
14 knowledge and skill administered by the Department or other entity
15 designated by the Department. The ~~Paramedic~~ paramedic is allowed to
16 perform such skills as may be designated by the Department.

17 SECTION 4. NEW LAW A new section of law to be codified
18 in the Oklahoma Statutes as Section 1-2509.1 of Title 63, unless
19 there is created a duplication in numbering, reads as follows:

20 The State Board of Health shall promulgate rules to implement
21 the provisions of the Oklahoma Emergency Response Systems
22 Development Act.

23 SECTION 5. This act shall become effective November 1, 2016.

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