



State of Tennessee

PUBLIC CHAPTER NO. 575

SENATE BILL NO. 1958

By Crowe, White, Reeves

Substituted for: House Bill No. 1933

By Cepicky, Van Huss, Ramsey, Keisling, Howell, Halford, Littleton, Ogles, Carter, Tillis, Casada, Byrd, Hakeem, Freeman, Crawford, Powell, Terry, Chism, Bricken, Hardaway

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 7, Chapter 86; Title 29, Chapter 20 and Title 68, relative to telecommunicator cardiopulmonary resuscitation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 7-86-205(a), is amended by designating the existing language as subdivision (a)(1) and adding the following new subdivision (a)(2):

(2)(A) The training and course of study requirements established pursuant to subdivision (a)(1) must include high-quality, nationally recognized, evidence-based emergency cardiovascular care guidelines for T-CPR.

(B) At a minimum, the training and course of study requirements must incorporate recognition protocols for out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA), compression-only cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) instructions for callers or bystanders, and continuous education as appropriate.

(C) Emergency call takers and public safety dispatchers who provide dispatch for emergency conditions shall offer T-CPR to a caller or bystander, when deemed necessary.

(D) The emergency communications board shall, by rule, establish a procedure for monitoring emergency call taker and public safety dispatcher adherence to T-CPR training requirements and conduct ongoing quality assurance. The emergency communication board may adjust grants or shared revenue amounts based on failure to comply with the requirements.

(E) As used in this subsection (a), "T-CPR" means telecommunicator cardiopulmonary resuscitation, which is the dispatcher-assisted delivery of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) instruction by trained emergency call takers or public safety dispatchers to callers or bystanders for events requiring CPR, such as out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA).

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 29-20-108(b), is amended by inserting the word "state" immediately before the word "law".

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 29-20-108, is amended by adding the following new subsections:

(c) An emergency call taker or public safety dispatcher who assists or instructs a caller or bystander on T-CPR is not liable for any civil damages or subject to a civil suit of any nature arising out of the assistance and instruction provided to the caller or bystander, except in cases of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

(d)(1) A caller or bystander may decline to receive T-CPR.

(2) When a caller or bystander declines T-CPR, the emergency call taker or public safety dispatcher has no obligation to provide such instruction.

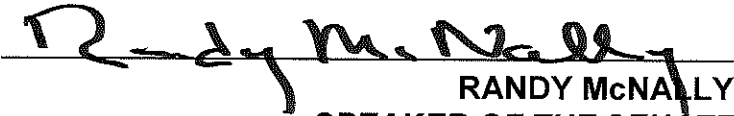
(e) The emergency communication district, state, county, and municipality are not liable for any civil damages or subject to a civil suit of any nature for employees who answer 911 emergency calls and employees who are recently hired, except in cases of gross negligence or willful misconduct.

(f) As used in this section, "T-CPR" means telecommunicator cardiopulmonary resuscitation, which is the dispatcher-assisted delivery of cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) instruction by trained emergency call takers or public safety dispatchers to callers or bystanders for events requiring CPR, such as out-of-hospital cardiac arrest (OHCA).

SECTION 4. For purposes of promulgating rules, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it. For all other purposes, this act shall take effect January 1, 2021, the public welfare requiring it.

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PASSED: March 5, 2020




RANDY McNALLY
SPEAKER OF THE SENATE



CAMERON SEXTON, SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APPROVED this 19th day of March 2020



BILL LEE, GOVERNOR